

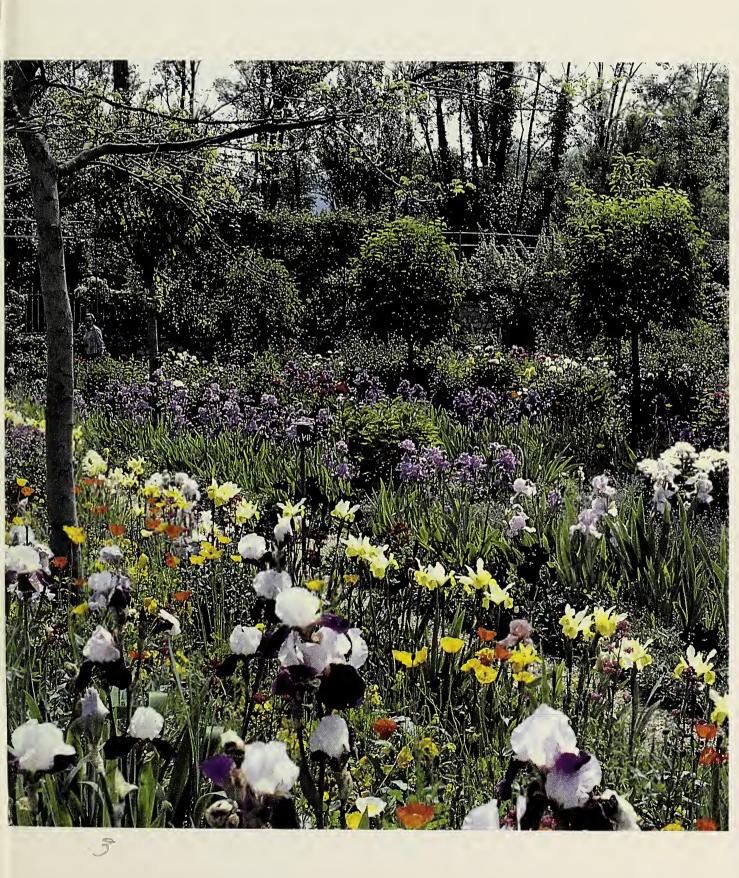




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# merican Iris Society

Number 280 January 1991



# ARILIAN ACRES

**Howard Shockey** 



LOVE BLUSH H. Shockey '91 TB

LACY MOON H. Shockey '91 TB



Please see advertisement on page 55

VOL. LXXII, NO. 1 Series No. 280

January, 1991

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—Communications regarding **advertising** should be addressed to **Kay Nelson**, Advertising Editor. For Information about membership, advertising rates and section dues, see Table of Contents.

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#### THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

A nonprofit institution incorporated Feb. 2, 1927, in the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. By the terms of the Charter, the Corporation has no stockholders and exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the IRIS.

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### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

washington, DC, Registration Information	
Go National in '91	
Exhibition Committee Report, 1990	
AIS Awards—Japanese Irises	
Additional Guest Irises for Atlanta	
October Bulletin Errata	
Boys' Town	
Median Bloom in Nebraska	
The Ones That Get Away	
1991 Membership Contest	
Edge of Frost—A Bloomin' Wonder	
Experiences in Florence	
Best of the Best	
Voice of an Amateur	The state of the s
Water Absorbing Polymers as a Soil Amen-	
Polymers as an Aid to Water Penetrations.	
Iris X Pacifica—Ghio	
International Hybridizing Network	Jerry Simmons 87
Symposium 1991	James Copeland 92
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting	
Regular I	Features
Regular 1 From the President's Desk4	Features  Youth Views67
From the President's Desk 4	Youth Views67
From the President's Desk 4  AIS Membership Rates 5	Youth Views
From the President's Desk 4  AIS Membership Rates 5  Contribution Information 5	Youth Views67Contributions to AISF70In Memoriam72
From the President's Desk	Youth Views67Contributions to AISF70In Memoriam72AIS Financial Statement96Statement of Ownership97
From the President's Desk	Youth Views67Contributions to AISF70In Memoriam72AIS Financial Statement96Statement of Ownership97AIS Judges 199198
From the President's Desk	Youth Views67Contributions to AISF70In Memoriam72AIS Financial Statement96Statement of Ownership97AIS Judges 199198113
From the President's Desk	Youth Views       67         Contributions to AISF       70         In Memoriam       72         AIS Financial Statement       96         Statement of Ownership       97         AIS Judges 1991       98
From the President's Desk	Youth Views       67         Contributions to AISF       70         In Memoriam       72         AIS Financial Statement       96         Statement of Ownership       97         AIS Judges 1991       98
From the President's Desk	Youth Views       67         Contributions to AISF       70         In Memoriam       72         AIS Financial Statement       96         Statement of Ownership       97         AIS Judges 1991       98
From the President's Desk	Youth Views       67         Contributions to AISF       70         In Memoriam       72         AIS Financial Statement       96         Statement of Ownership       97         AIS Judges 1991       98
From the President's Desk	Youth Views       67         Contributions to AISF       70         In Memoriam       72         AIS Financial Statement       96         Statement of Ownership       97         AIS Judges 1991       98
From the President's Desk	Youth Views       67         Contributions to AISF       70         In Memoriam       72         AIS Financial Statement       96         Statement of Ownership       97         AIS Judges 1991       98
From the President's Desk	Youth Views       67         Contributions to AISF       70         In Memoriam       72         AIS Financial Statement       96         Statement of Ownership       97         AIS Judges 1991       98

**ON THE COVER:** Photographer Susan Schwiesow applies her talent for composing pictures in her shot of the iris gardens at Giverny, France. The gardens have been replanted according to the original design of their owner, painter Claude Monet. Color separations are courtesy of the American Iris Society's calendars.



# From the Desk of the President

Kenneth Waite

The past year has been a very active one. I am grateful for the support of officers, directors and committee chairmen during this initial term of office. There has been much correspondence with members. The section publications, regional bulletins, and club newsletters are appreciated. The information they contain enables one to keep current on events in sections, regions and clubs. The quality of the publications and service given on the local level is to be commended.

The petitioned election for the Board of Directors is now past history. It is regrettable that so few members cast ballots. It was not very representative of the total membership. The cost of the special election was several thousand dollars. The results will be found elsewhere in this bulletin.

It is essential that the AIS Membership Secretary be notified immediately of any address change to assure delivery of correspondence, bulletins, etc. When a change is not reported results are often delayed or lost bulletins. Several ballots were returned during the Board of Directors election with the notation "Forwarding Time Expired" and new addresses were not available.

The Species Iris Group of North America is to be complimented on the recently released folio of 'Iris Watercolors' by Jean Witt. These may be purchased through SIGNA and should be in every iris enthusiast's collection. You will be as delighted about them as I am. Thank you, SIGNA, for making them available to us.

Another new publication recommended is 'The Japanese Iris' by Currier McEwen. This 153 page book on history, culture, and breeding of Japanese irises contains 32 color pictures of the Japanese iris class. Here is another 'should have' and a fitting companion for the edition of 'The Louisiana Iris' edited by Marie Caillet and Joseph Mertzweiller.

The trend of sections to hold mini-conventions continues to grow in popularity. It enables them to exhibit their special class at peak bloom and fellowship with others of like interests. Recently I had the opportunity to attend one such affair, the Japanese Iris Convention held in Portland, Maine. It was a delightful affair and by all reports the others are as worthy.

In the midst of winter with garden chores at rest, it is a good time to plan for the 1991 iris season. Be sure to include time on your agenda to visit other gardens, especially those of your regional hybridizers. It is amazing and exciting to learn of the work being done by the lesser known hybridizers.

May your New Year be a Blooming Iris Year.

AIS MEMBERSHIP RATES								
Annual \$ 9.50 Fa	mily Trier	nnial		28.50				
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Youth Member, with others of family as memb								
Youth Members, with no others of family as n								
	single	single	family	family				
SECTION MEMBERSHIP RATES	annual	triennial	annual	triennial				
Median Iris Society	5.50	15.00	8.00	22.50				
Society for Siberian Irises	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00				
Spuria Iris Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	14.00				
Society for Japanese Irises	3.50	9.00	4.00	10.50				
Reblooming Iris Society	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00				
Society for Pacific Coast								
Native Iris	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00				
Species Iris Group of								
North America	3.50	9.00	4.50	10.50				
Louisiana Iris Society of America	3.00	8.00	4.50	12.00				
Dwarf Iris Society	3.00	8.00	4.50	12.00				

Membership in AIS sections is open to all AIS members. Payment may be made directly to the Section, or may be made payable to the American Iris Society and sent to AIS Membership Secretary, Marilyn Harlow, P.O. Box 8455, San Jose, CA 95155

12.00

6.00

15.00

Historic Iris Preservation Society ...... 5.00

#### CONTRIBUTIONS AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY: Send to The American Iris Society, Jeane Stayer, Secretary, 7414 E. 60th St., Tulsa, OK 74145.

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY FOUNDATION: Send to AIS Foundation, Richard T. Pettijohn, Treasurer, 2510 S. 148th Avenue, Omaha, NE 68144. Donations to the Foundation and AIS are tax deductible.

Note: please include name and address of next-of-kin pertaining to memorial gifts, so that a card of acknowledgment may be sent. Checks should be payable to the American Iris Society or the American Iris Society Foundation.

### **AIS SALES ITEMS**

THE WORLD OF IRISES	tors and authors including international color. Published in 1978 and the most entific and popular, 6" x 9" hard bound
HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES AND SHOW OFFICE	
Fifth Edition, in handy looseleaf form. Availab pages.	pages only \$4.00 ble with or without binder for holding the
Iris Notes, 3½ x 5½, reproductions of waterc Botanic Garden, \$6.00 per pack, 3 for \$17.0 envelopes, two different designs.	
Order by pack number: Pack 1: 5 Iris aurea, 5	Iris latifolia.
Pack 2: 5 Iris xiphium,	, 5 Japanese iris.
Pack 3: 5 Iris pallida h	
IRIS SHOW POSTERS	
AIS LAPEL PINS	
AIS logo in blue and green on silver plated	
BASIC IRIS CULTURE	each \$1.25; packet of 25, \$15.00
A 32-page booklet covering the basic aspec	
issue or quantity for resale by societies at mee	
1988 AIS MEMBERSHIP BOOK. A complete addresses	
IRIS POST CARDS	
Twelve different shots, in color, per packet.	donot \$\pi_2.00, 0 \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
1969 IRIS CHECK LIST	\$17.00
Reprint. Ten-year compilation of registrations	
1979 IRIS CHECK LIST	
Reprint, Ten-year compilation of registrations	§ 1970-79.
REGISTRATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS— 1978 \$4.00	1987 \$4.00
1984 \$4.00	1988 \$4.00
1985 \$4.00	1989 \$4.00
1986 \$4.00	
BULLETINS: Back issues, if available	
	\$3.00
BRONZE ANNIVERSARY MEDALS  The AIS 50th Anniversary medal in antiqued	
prizes, and special awards.	
AIS SEALS	
Self-adhesive ovals larger than a half dollar, silver background. (50 per pack)	official design in blue and green on a
RHS COLOUR CHARTS	\$45.00
Set of four color fans, plus instruction leaflet	
1991 AIS CALENDAR	\$5.00—10 for \$30.00
Prices include nostage	and handling

# Prices include postage and handling. Make checks payable to The American Iris Society

Send order to Charles J. Lack, 718 West 67th Street, Tulsa, OK 74132 Phone (918) 445-2222



#### **Convention Headquarters**

Fairview Park Marriott Washington Beltway (495) 3111 Fairview Park Drive at junction of Route 50 Falls Church, VA 22042 (703) 849-9400 or Toll Free: (800) 228-9290

Rates: \$92 plus 6.5% tax for 1 to 4 persons per room. Convention rates apply to rooms reserved 2 days prior (May 15-16) or 2 days after (May 23-24) convention. Free garage parking is available. Availability of van service to/from Dulles and National Airports is being negotiated. Registration confirmation will contain firm information about this.

A hotel reservation card will be included with confirmation of your convention registration. You may also book room reservations directly with the hotel or through the central Marriott registry using the 800 number. Be sure to state that you are with the American Iris Society. All unreserved rooms blocked for convention will be released after April 26. Reserve early. Check in time 4:00 PM.

### **Registration Fees:**

Postmarked before April 1, 1991	\$158.00
Postmarked April 1 – April 26, 1991	
Postmarked after April 26, 1991	\$205.00
Youth 18 and under	\$118.00

Partial registration rates are available upon inquiry for advance registrations only. Full registration refund will be made if notice is postmarked no later than April 1st; 50% refund will be made if notice is postmarked no later than April 20th; no refund thereafter.

Please indicate if you: (1) require special transportation during garden tours, (2) need information concerning local camping facilities and (3) are a hybridizer who has registered and introduced irises.

#### **Optional Tour Fees:**

Cut-off date for optional tours is April 26th.

Make checks payable to:

1991 AIS Convention

Mail registrations to:

Anne & Mike Lowe 12219 Zilles Road

Blackstone, VA 23824

As a courtesy to tour garden owners, we ask that you consider the private convention gardens closed for viewing from May 11–May 22.



# Optional Tour to Gunston Hall and Mount Vernon Saturday, May 18, 1991 12:30–6:30 PM

Spend an afternoon in Historic Virginia and tour two of the homes of, literally, "First Families of Virginia."

Any trip to the nation's capital would be incomplete without a visit to **Mount Vernon** (c.1743), where George and Martha Washington lived for about half a century, and to **Gunston Hall** (c.1755), the home of George and Ann Mason. George Washington is, deservedly, well known to all of us; however, George Mason, known as the "Reluctant Statesman," deserves equal time. **Gunston Hall** is a jewel of 18th century design, both inside and out, and is surrounded by restored gardens appropriate to the period.

The tour route has been carefully selected so that you will be able to see the beautiful **George Washington Memorial Parkway** (1886–1932), built to pay homage to the "Father of Our Country;" Forts **Hunt** (1897) and **Washington** (1815), erected to guard the Potomac approach to Washington DC; an original 1814 **Oliver Evans grist mill** relocated in 1932 to the 1770 site of the Washington estate mill; **Gum Springs** (c.1840), a village founded by a slave, West Ford, who was freed by the Washington family; **Woodlawn** (1799), a plantation built by George Washington as a wedding gift to his step-granddaughter, Nellie Custis; and the parish church, **Pohick** (c.1770), where both Washington and Mason were vestrymen.

A <u>must</u> for history buffs, this tour is limited to 180 registrants and is the bargain of the convention at \$20. *Please include this in your convention registration check*. Cut-off date for this interesting and informative trip is April 26th, so register early for this guided look at some of the beginnings of America.

## **Optional Tour to National Arboretum**

Sunday, May 19, 1991

8:00 AM-12:30 PM

The U.S. National Arboretum consists of 444 acres of specialty gardens, landscape plantings, and native trees and shrubs. Among the highlights of the tour are the following:

The National Bonsai and Penjing Museum established in 1976 in commemoration of America's bicentennial. The Nippon Bonsai Association of Japan presented 53 bonsai and 6 viewing stones to the American people. This priceless gift became the foundation of the present expanded collection. Among the original 53 bonsai is a 350 year old Japanese white pine, the oldest in the collection.

The National Herb Garden. This garden covers about 2 acres in a design concept of 3 separate but closely related sections—the Knot garden, historic rose garden, and the specialty garden. The last of these is divided into (l) the Dioscorides garden (representative herb plants listed about 60 AD by Greek physician, Dioscorides), (2) the dye garden, (3) the early American garden, (4) American Indian garden, (5) plants in medicine, (6) the culinary garden, (7) the industrial garden, (8) the Oriental garden, and (9) the beverage garden.

The Gotelli Dwarf and Slow-Growing Conifer Collection considered by many to be one of the finest collections of dwarf conifers in the world. It occupies an attractive hillside site of 5 acres, and was donated by William T. Gotelli in 1962. This incomparable collection of about 1,500 specimens represents 30 genera in numerous varieties of fir, cedar, false cypress, juniper, spruce, pine, yew, arborvitae, hemlock, and others.

The East Front Columns of the United States Capitol at the Arboretum. In 1958 the east central portico of the U.S. Capitol was carefully dismantled to make way for a marble clad addition. In 1984, 22 columns were transferred to the National Arboretum where they were erected in a nearly square configuration enhanced by a fountain, water stairs and a reflection pool. The dedication for this addition took place June 14, 1990. As seen from across the meadow, this array of columns provides an inspirational and breathtaking view.

Other attractions include the Asian valley, the Daylily, Iris, and Peony collections, the American Garden, and the B. Y. Morrison Azalea collection of some 70,000 specimens.

This guided tour includes a refreshment break and an opportunity to visit the Arboretum Gift Shop.

Cost: \$10.00 to be included in Registration check.

#### **Tentative Schedule of Convention Events**

Friday, May 17—Registration open from 4–8 PM.

Saturday, May 18—Hotel check-in time is 4:00 PM. Registration open from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM. AIS Board of Directors will consume at 1:00 PM. Seation Board Most

vene at 1:00 PM. Section Board Meetings scheduled: Japanese, Dwarf, Historic, and Median societies in the afternoon. The Region 4 Board, AIS Section Representatives, RVP's, Judges' Training Chairmen, Past and Future Convention Chairmen and AIS Foundation will meet during the evening. Optional tour to Mt.

Sunday, May 19—Registration open from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Reblooming and Siberian Society

Vernon from 12:30-6:30 PM.

Board Meetings are scheduled. AIS Board reconvenes at 8:00 AM. There will be an optional tour to the National Arboretum from 8:00 AM–12:30 PM. Sections that will meet during the day are: LISA, Signa, Aril International, Japanese, Reblooming, Dwarf, Siberian, and Spuria. Robin reception will be held in conjunction with a no host social hour at 6:30 PM, followed by the Welcome Banquet at 7:30 PM.

Monday, May 20—Breakfast on your own; continental or full breakfast available beginning at 5:30 AM. The registration desk will be open from 6:00 to 7:00 AM. Buses will load between 6:30 and 7:00 AM. Dinner on your own. Evening functions: Median, PCN, and HIPS Section Meetings beginning at 7:00 PM.

**Tuesday, May 21**—Breakfast on your own; continental or full breakfast available beginning at 5:30 AM. Buses load between 6:30 and 7:00 AM. Dinner on your own. Beginning at 7:00 PM, three concurrent judges' training sessions will be held: (1) Judging Medians, (2) Ethics of Judging, (3) Judging Japanese Irises.

Wednesday, May 22—Breakfast on your own; continental or full breakfast available beginning at 5:30 AM. Buses load between 6:30 and 7:00 AM. Deadline for submission of ballots for President's Cup and Cook Cup is 5:00 PM. No host Social Hour and Youth Reception at 6:30 PM; Awards Banquet at 7:30 PM.

# "GO NATIONAL IN '91"

# Bring the Family to Washington and Join in the Celebration of the Capital's Bicentennial

Phil Ogilvie (Washington, D.C.)

At age 200, Washington is the youngest of the major cities in the mid-Atlantic region. You may wonder why Congress elected to establish a city independent of any state as the capital rather than select one of the existing centers of population.

Following the American Revolution (1776-1783), the unpaid Pennsylvania Line mutinied and petitioned the government of Pennsylvania for back pay. The Confederation Congress, meeting in Philadelphia, perceived this as a threat to their independence. The failure of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania to put down the mutiny with the state militia persuaded Congress of the need for a congressionally controlled national capital. The federal constitution, adopted on September 15, 1787, decreed such an independent city.

On July 16, 1790, Congress authorized President George Washington to select a site on the Potomac River for the new nation's capital. He designated a diamond shaped area, ten-miles long on each side, which included the busy seaports of Alexandria, Virginia and Georgetown, Maryland. The following year, Washington picked three prominent residents of the region as Commissioners to supervise the development of the federal city. He also selected Pierre Charles L'Enfant to lay-out the city and site the public buildings and Andrew Ellicott to survey the federal district. Both had served in the Revolutionary War. After continual conflict between L'Enfant and the Commissioners, Washington fired Major L'Enfant in 1792 and Major Ellicott modified and prepared the city plan for publication. The Washington family coat-of-arms, three red stars over two red stripes on a white field, is in the upper right corner of this plan. This symbol was later selected for the city's flag.

After a decade of planning and construction the Federal Government was officially relocated to Washington on December 1, 1800. One of its first actions was to divide the district into Washington County on the Potomac's east bank and Alexandria County on the west bank. Congress chartered the City of Washington in 1802. In 1846, Congress returned Alexandria County to Virginia.

Washington is genuinely a "capital city" boasting all the amenities expected of a major cosmopolitan center in addition to the world-famous attractions unique to this area. Your registration package will contain a guide with detailed information on all features mentioned in this article.

May weather in Washington (average high 79°F, average low 60°F) is sometimes changeable; cool and showery weather is possible as are very warm dry days.

The convention hotel, located outside the city, is linked by a short bus ride to a safe, clean, and swift Metrorail system that serves the entire area. Over 1,500 Washington retailers offer all seniors, age 60 and over, a special 10, 20, or greater percentage discount on goods and services. You will find a supply of *Gold Mine Directories* at the convention registration desk to help you locate these cooperating merchants.

I have deliberately emphasized a domestic aspect of Washington before mentioning memorials, monuments, and museums, since visitors often lose sight of the "hometown" behind the ceremonial facade. The memorials of three of our greatest Presidents, Washington, Jefferson, and Lincoln, describe a triangle around the tidal basin on the banks of the Potomac. Nearby, in Constitution Gardens, is the very popular Vietnam Veterans Memorial, while on Pennsylvania Avenue at Eighth Street, NW, is the newest major monument, the United States Navy Memorial. Do walk across the street and see the Constitution and Declaration of Independence in the National Archives. Supplementing these touchstones of our American Heritage, is a special exhibit on the Bill of Rights called "This Fierce Spirit of Liberty."

Just across the Potomac, in what until 1846 was part of the District of Columbia, is "Arlington House," the former home of Robert E. Lee, surrounded by the Arlington National Cemetery. Just west of the cemetery is the Iwo Jima Statue. This Marine Corps Memorial is the largest bronze statue ever cast. Also found here is the Netherlands Carillon, a gift to the United States following World War II. One of the area's most interesting memorials is located on an island in the river opposite the Iwo Jima Statue. This island was the estate of John Mason, son of George Mason and the first commandant of the District of Columbia militia. It is now called Theodore Roosevelt Island and contains his memorial in the center of a nature reserve.

Washington is known as a town of museums, galleries, and libraries. I'm sure you all know of the Smithsonian Institution, but many visitors think it is a single museum. In Washington alone it encompasses 14 different entities, including the National Zoo, the Museum of Natural History, and the National Air and Space Museum. The key is to start at the new Visitors Information Center in The Castle, the original Smithsonian building opened in 1855. The city contains at least 17 other major public museums and galleries, ranging from the National Gallery of Art to Wonderlight Collection of Holography.

The two internationally known libraries of Washington are clustered with the United States Capitol on Capitol Hill. The Folger Shakespeare Library founded in 1929, is under the trusteeship of Amherst College, and includes a replica of an Elizabethan in-yard theatre that is home to both a resident theatrical company and to an early music group. This library contains the world's largest collection of Shakespearian literature as well as a major library of related materials. The three buildings of the Library of Congress are situated to the south and to the east of the Capitol. The newest building, the Madison, is second only to the Pentagon in size. Both these libraries contain rotating exhibits.

The National Aquarium is located on the lower level of the United States Department of Commerce Building. The first aquarium in America was administered for 109 years by the Federal government. Since 1982 it has been operated by a private non-profit society and is becoming once again a major attraction.

The metropolitan area abounds in parks and gardens. Rock Creek Park, in Washington, became 100 years old in 1990. Over 2,800 acres in size, it is one of the largest city parks in the world. In addition to hiking trails and a nature center, it contains the Carter Barron Amphitheatre, the National Zoo, an Art Barn, and a working early 19th century grist mill. The city also contains the National Arboretum, a 444 acre area of rolling hills containing a wide variety of plant collections, which will be the destination of one of the optional tours described elsewhere in this issue. The U.S. Botanic Gardens Conservatory is located at the foot of Capitol Hill. While this institution traces its existence to the 1820's, the present conservatory was built in 1931. The Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society holds many of its iris shows in this building. Kenilworth Aguatic Gardens is one of our smallest National Parks. This hidden gem on the Anacostia River will reach its peak bloom in June through August when its many varieties of waterlilies and lotus will flower. Dumbarton Oaks in Georgetown is an 1801 house and contemporary museum surrounded by a garden designed by Beatrix Farrand. It is administered by Harvard University and, while the museum is devoted to pre-Columbian and Byzantine Art, the library is devoted to landscape design and horticulture.

The metropolitan area boasts 26 performance spaces, ranging from the intimate arena of the supper club to the giant out-door stage of Wolf Trap Farm Park for the Performing Arts. In addition to the Folger and Carter Barron previously mentioned, no description of the Washington theatre scene would be complete without mention of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. In addition to housing four theaters, Kennedy Center is also the national memorial to the martyred president. The types of presentations vary from avat-garde to traditional drama, from pre-baroque to new wave music, classical ballet to performance art, anything you can imagine is available in the nation's capital.

There is no space for discussion of sports, professional athletics, the out-of-doors, historic sites, stately homes, battlefields, gardens outside the District, natural wonders, public buildings, neighborhoods in/out of the city, or fine restaurants both classical and ethnic. The only way I know to remedy these omissions is to offer you personalized service. If you have any questions about the area write or call me, and, if I can't answer your question, I will direct it to someone who can:

Phil Ogilvie, Convention Publicity Chrmn. 1300 Naylor Court, NW Washington, DC 20001-4225 (202)727-2052

# **Exhibition Committee Report for 1990**

#### Lillian Gristwood

Even with our unpredictable weather, our shows keep increasing in number each year. This year there were 186 approved shows, an increase from 179 last year. 9 shows had to be cancelled for one reason or another, even one because the Mall where it had been scheduled was sold and the new owner would not honor their contract. The cancellations were mostly in the south or southwest where the season was so early that the bloom was nearly all gone. Region 17 had to cancel 3 shows, Region 4 cancelled 2, and Regions 14, 18, 23 and 24 each cancelled 1 show each. Region 16 (Canada) was the only Region without a show.

The leading regions in presenting shows were Region 18 with 19 shows and 1 all seedling show, Region 22 and 14 each with 15 shows, Region 6 with 13 shows, Region 17 with 11 and Region 7 with 10 shows.

There were Artistic Sections in 21 Regions, Region 18 having the greatest number with 17, followed by Region 6 with 12 and Region 22 with 10. An Artistic Section is a big addition to any show.

Along with this, 14 Regions including Educational Sections, Region 18 having 8 Sections and Region 22 with 6 Sections.

Included in all the shows, every type of Irises was exhibited. Of the 161 types displayed, each type received a best specimen award. The mix of types might be of interest.

Tall Bearded	113	Aril/Arilbred	7
Border Bearded	3	Californicae	1
Miniature Tall Bearded	5	Japanese	6
Intermediate Bearded	6	Louisiana	7
Standard Dwarf Bearded	6	Siberian	3
Miniature Dwarf Bearded	1	Spuria	2
		Species	2

The Nelson Award tally goes to SILVERADO as best in seven shows. DUSKY CHALLENGER and SONG OF NORWAY were the best in six shows. JESSE'S SONG and VANITY tied for 3rd place with 3 votes, and 6 shared 4th spot—BREAKERS, COUNTRY MANOR, MYSTIQUE, TITAN'S GLORY and RARE EDITION (IB) with 2 votes each. What a selection when they come from all corners of the country. A few more of each type is appearing each year, I wonder when an Aril or a Japanese or Louisiana, or even a Siberian will appear in the top spot.

The A.I.S. provided 122 sets of medals to Affiliate Societies and Regions. Every show that any Society puts on, makes the public more aware of our Iris and the organization that presents it.

# AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY SHOWS—1990

PLACE OF SHOW	SILVER MEDAL	BRONZE MEDAL	BEST SPECIMEN	EXHIBITOR
REGION 1				
Auburn, Maine	The Moors	The Whites	Gay Parasol	The Whites
Shelbume Falls, MA	Debby Wheeler	Harry Bishop	Tides in	Mr./Mrs. Kenneth Waite
New Haven, CT	Richard Kiyomoto	Shirley Varmette	Vanity	Richard Kiyomoto
South Portland, ME	Schafer/Sacks	Shirley Pope	Kalamazoo (JI)	The Moors
South Paris, ME	The Hazeltons	Pauline Grenier	Pippi Longstocking (SDB)	Th Hazeltons
Waltham, MA	David & Barbara Schmieder	Marty Schater/Jan Sacks	Claret Cup (Iris Ver)	Marian Schmuhl
REGION 2	O O-1:#-4:	De Ed Velender	One and the Older	D- 01 - 0-1-#-
Buffalo, NY	Gregory Schifferli	Dr. Ed Valentine	Cascadian Skies	Dr. Carolyn Schaffner
Cicero, NY	John & Helen Schueler	Bob & Anna Mae Cummings	Stepping Out	Jim & Lillian Gristwood
REGION 3	Larry Weetfell	Hen Crant Vagarias	Fune Attac	Mrs. Cramt Magazina
Kennett Square, PA	Larry Westfall	Mrs. Grant Kegerise	Ever After	Mrs. Grant Kegerise
Dover, DE	Ellwood Maltman Harold L. Griffie	Ruth White Barbara & Sterling Innerst	Bumble Bee Delite (MTB)	Gheen Stephenson Harold L. Griffie
Harrisburg, PA	Harold L. Griffie		Cascade Crest (JI)	
Hanover, PA		Barbara & Sterling Innerst John Baron	Sterling Blush Breakers	Barbara & Sterling Inner
Pittsburgh, PA	George Gerhardt Sterling & Barbara Innerst	Harold L. Griffie	Ballerina Blue	The Rogers Sterling & Barbara Inner
York, PA REGION 4	Sterling & Daibara Innerst	Halolu L. Gimie	Dalletilla Dide	Sterling & Darbara Illiner
Charlotte, NC	Audrey L. Cline	Frank & Elva Wagstaff	Rasberries & Cream	Charles Hors
Fredericksburg, VA	Lois Rose	Ruth Walker	Haidmaiden (LA)	Charles Hare Freda Martin
Towson, MD	Mr./Mrs. J. Owings Rebert	Carol Warner	Lilac Haze	
Virginia Beach, VA	Rich Randall	Pat Dawley	Merry Madrigal	Carol Wamer Dalynne Kelly
Washington, DC	Daina Nicholls	Carol Wamer	Frilled Enchantment (JI)	Rosalie Figge
REGION 5	Dama Nicions	Galo: Walliel	Tilled Elichandheil (JI)	nosalie rigge
Anderson, SC	Pat Johnson	Shirley Paquet	Poet	Shirley Paquet
Columbia, SC	John W. Wood	Ted M. Lee	Ron	Wayne C. Smith, Jr.
Decator, GA	Harry Tumer	Beverly Barbour	Dundee	Harry Turner
Milledgeville, GA	Pat Johnson	Joe & Janet Watson	Chickee (MTB)	Pat Johnson
Spartanburg, SC	John Wood	Pat Johnson	Waverly Pink (LA)	Pat Johnson
Summerville, SC	John Wood	Joe & Janet Watson	Dappled Dragon (JI)	John Wood
REGION 6	50m 1100a	ooc a banot matosii	Duppiou Diagon (01)	001111 11000
Cleveland, OH	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Tony Szegedi	Cup Race	Tony Szegedi
Flint, MI	Marlyn Nelson	Hal Stahly	War Sails	Marlyn Nelson
Fort Wayne, IN	Lynda Miller	Harold Bunker	Song of Norway	Lynda Miller
Grand Rapids, MI	Alice Otter	Carol Kerr	Rare Edition (IB)	Alice Otter
Grand Rapids, MI	Carol Kerr	Alice Otter	Rare Edition (IB)	Alice Otter
Indianapolis, IN	Pat & Jason Leader	Doris J. Winton	Heavenly Rapture	Doris J. Winton
Lansing, MI	Linda Keifer	Richard Femis	Song of Norway	Louis Axeman
Kalamazoo, MI	Duane Darling	Sue Copeland	Song of Norway	Mr./Mrs. Ronald Miller
Mansfield, OH	Chuck Ridenour	Joan Sowers	Country Manor	Cathy Ridenour
Mio, Mi	Wayne Neumann	Nelson Yoder	Cranberry Ice	Wayne Neumann
Muncie, IN	Noel Ann Turner	Pat & Jason Leader	Wildcard	Lynda S. Miller
Portage, MI	Ensata Gardens	Duane Darling	Capaneus (JI)	Ensata Gardens
Royal Oaks, MI	Joan Kepf	Hal Stahly	Lucky Lilac (SIB)	Hal Stahly
REGION 7		,		,
Bowling Green, KY	Thelma Lamb	Lou Ehrcke	Honky Tonk Blues	Betty Wilkerson
Jackson, TN	Bob Love	Nadine Avent	Silverado	Joe McMurray
Lexington, KY	Mrs. Elsie Laws	Mrs. Linda Sullivan	Piping Hot	Mark Cook
Lewisburg, TN	Mrs. Frank Tyree	Mitchel Wright	Mt. Olympus	Mitchel Wright
Louisville, KY	Sheldon Butt	Gladys Buie	Vanity	Barbara Schwartz
Memphis, TN	James W. Russell	Beth Koonce	Supreme Sultan	Beth Koonce
Memphis, TN	Lottie Lough	James W. Russell	Dusky Challenger	Lottie Lough
Murfreesboro, TN	Jerry & Jane Gifford	Robert & Dean Daniel	Dusky Challenger	Leola Fouts
Nashville, TN	Jerry & Jane Gifford	Brenda Ryan	Dorthea K. Williamson (LA)	Bill Hurt
Lebanon, TN	Thelma Lamb	Inez Tums	St. Helen's Wake	Jim Bingham
REGION 8				
Blaine, MN	Inga Hempel	Julius Wadekamper	Everything Plus	Julius Wadekamper
Boemer, WI	Sandra Lemmer	Fred Jahnke	Aztex Star (SDB)	Sandra Lemmer
Boemer, WI	Francis Roger	Sandra Lemmer	Glowing Gamet	Art Blodgett
Fond du Lac	Phyllis Semenas	Leslie Kolitz	Capricious	Phyllis Semenas
Madison, WI	Russ Hintz	Dan Thruman	Glacier Sky	Debbie Kelsey (Y)
Minneota, MN	Rita Dover	Pam Stassen	Song of Norway	Rita Dovre
Roseville, MN	Julius Wadekamper	Sigrid Dalgaard	Glee Club (1B)	Jane Meyer
	T	,	,	
	Sheldon Butt	Orville & Lu Dickhaut	Chablis	Orville & Lu Dickhaut
REGION 9	Sheldon Butt Karl Jensen	Orville & Lu Dickhaut Francis Brenner	Chablis Mystique	Orville & Lu Dickhaut Karl Jensen

Glencoe, IL (1989)	Russell A. Hintz	Linda Joel-Esteuez	Sterling Stitch	Lorraine Meyer
Lombard, IL	Russell Bruno	Charles Simon	Lemon Puff (MDB)	Charles Simon
Lombard, IL	Russell Bruno	Charles J. Simon	Breakers	Charles J. Simon
Urbana, IL	Jerry & Melody Wilhoit	Steve Varner	Welch's Reward (MTB)	Jason Wilhoit (Y)
REGION 10				
Lafayette, LA	Dorman Haymon	James Leonard	Jeri (LA)	Dorman Haymon
REGION 11	20		55(12.4)	- oman may men
	K 0.D 14 D:	D 1 10 D 111 0	D.F. I. I.D. (4.D.)	
Missoula, MT	Ken & Rose Mary Baier	Robert & Billie Gray	Polished Brass (AR)	Ken & Rose Mary Baier
REGION 12				
Layton, UT	Dr. Alan Toronto	Cathy Hagen Reed	Silverado	Dr. Alan Toronto
•	Larene Done	Charlotte Easter		Dr. Alan Toronto
Salt Lake City, UT			Dusky Challenger	
Salt Lake City, UT	Brad & Kathie Kasperek	Cathy Hagen Reed	Gift of Dreams	Ray Pulley
REGION 13				
Portland, OR	Kay Ludi	Joanne Derr	Jesse's Song	Chad Harris
Portland, OR	Kay Ludi	Wava Ludi	Starlight River	Wava Ludi
Portland, OR	Chad Harris	Elsie Skinner	Snowy Hill (JI)	Chad Harris
Richland, WA	Lyle E. Fort	Trudy Jones	Dusky Challenger	Kay Craven Fort
Puyallup, WA	E. J. Van Slyke	Marjorie Kilbom	Pacific Mist	Mrs. Al Lind
Walla Walla, WA	Margaret McCrae	Billie Johnson	Silverado	L. Alan Fort
Bellevue, WA	Maybeth Presley	Carla McGavran	Windsong West	Debby Cole
REGION 14				
	Lais Polardi	Jacob Chia	Los Colifornio (DCN)	Laio Delaudi
Capitola, CA	Lois Belardi	Joseph Ghio	Los Californio (PCN)	Lois Belardi
Chico, CA	Rex Clark	Sam Best	Loud Mouth (ARB)	Bob & Irene Annand
Fresno, CA	Bill Tyson	George Sutton	Syrian Princess (ARB)	Bill Tyson
Hanford, CA	Delores Bates	Margaret McCraw	Song of Norway	Richard Holaday, Jr.
· ·				The state of the s
Las Vegas, NV	Mr. Berkeley Hunt	Mrs. Marvin Ray	Bethany (BB)	Mr. Berkeley Hunt
Las Vegas, NV	Helen Cochran	Oscar A. Schick	Fantastic (LA)	Oscar A. Schick
Oakland, CA	Ed & Mary Ralston	Alan Robbins	Study in Black	Daniel Berman
	The state of the s			
Palo Alto, CA	Lois Belardi	Merry & David Haveman	Jesse's Song	Lois Belardi
Redding, CA	Judy Wallach	Georgia Maxim	Outrageous Fortune	Judy Wallach
Redding, CA	Vera Stanley	Bob Annand	Kudos (ARB)	Carole Vossen
Sacramento, CA	Bertha Brownlee	Joyce Ragle	Blue Pennant (SIB)	Joyce Ragle
			, ,	
Santa Rosa, CA	Betty Ford	Elyse Hill	Annabelle Babson	Jeff & Gioia Davis
Tulare, CA	Fran & John Weiler	George Sutton	Whole Cloth	Ed Matheny III
Ukiah, CA	Otha Alexander	Robert & Evodia Primer	Santana	Kathy Crane
	Alan Robbins	Walt Dean		Walt Dean
Walnut Creek, CA	AIdil Hobbins	Wall Deall	Titans Glory	wan bean
REGION 15				
Arcadia, CA	Duncan Eader	Peter De Santis	Laban Effendi (AB)	John Wight
Palmdale, CA	Billy De Haas	Flo Doull	Orchidarium	Evelyn Ferber
Phoenix, AZ	Jan & Gary Meeker	Julius Riedel	Cafe' Society	Hall Bradshaw
Riverside, CA	Corrinne Bromberger	Celeste Hammer	Mohr Pretender (AB)	Betty Cole
San Diego, CA	Claire Barr	Dorothy Driscoll	Happy Bride	Thelma Carrington
Arcadia, CA	Lynn McIlwain	Duncan Eader	Custom Design (SPU)	Lynn McIlwain
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
Tucson, AZ	Sally Cooperman	Alex Britain	Clyde Redmond (LA)	Bill Huffman
Van Nuys, CA	Gigi Hall	Teresa Sage	Jaimie Lynn	Janet Tosches
REGION 17	J.	ŭ	•	
	Kannath Manuals	Maria Clavias	On Edna	Don Johnson
Amarillo, TX	Kenneth Mazurek	Marie Glovier	On Edge	Don Johnson
Austin, TX	Lorraine & Ray Dragon	Jim Allen	On the Go	Lorraine & Ray Dragon
Belton, TX	Opal Gray	Maudie Landers	Victoria Falls	Fadine Hanna
Dallas, TX	Doelors Byrne	Janet Murphy	Superstition	Doelors Byme
' contract of the contract of			•	· ·
Denison, TX	Charles L. Brown	Charles Montgomery	Starfrost Pink	Judith Earp
Lubbock, TX	Virginia Hodges	Louise & Mason Kester	Flashing Beacon (MTB)	Louise & Mason Kester
Midland, TX	Debra Strauss	Janet Newton	Bubbling Over	Debra Strauss
Odessa, TX	Ann Ballard		9	Debra Strauss
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		John Howlett, MD	Depth of Field	
Sherman, TX	Randolph & Millie Hall	Charles Montgomery	Merry Monarch	Bob Hill
Waco, TX	Mary Fussell	Bobby Alexander	Song of Norway	Truman Lytle
Wichita Falls, TX	Kitty Dyer	Ruth James	Pretty Print	Roger Arnold
	ratty Dyer	ridiri darries	rietty rinn	rioger Arriola
REGION 18				
Augusta, KS	Clancy Walz	Floyd Dyer	Andi (IB)	Floyd Dyer
Cape Girardeau, MO	O. David Niswonger	Chester Blaylock	Kissing Circle (BB)	Clyde Hahn
De Soto, MO	Carla Steinkoetter	Frances Boyd	Ole Silver	Frances Boyd
		•		· ·
Dodge City, KS	Marti Woods	Bob Preston	Roman Copper	Helen Morris
Garden City, KS	Wanda Smith	Keith Fillmore	Rainmaker (SDB)	Wanda Smith
Garden City, KS	Wanda Smith	Dale Smith	Tufted Cloud	Mike Ortiz (Y)
		Bea Gross		Irma Torrey
Hays, KS	Irma Torrey		Banbury Ruffles (SDB)	· ·
Hays, KS	Irma Torrey	Geneva Dies	Miss Jennie	Betty Langston
Hutchinson, KS	Betty Hill	Blanche Coleman	Mystique	Betty Hill
Joplin, MO	Bill Chapman	Gary Sharp	Jesse's Song	Bill Chapman
			•	· ·
Kansas City, MO	Jim Hedgecock	Katherine Perry	Demon (SDB)	Jim Hedgecock
St. Louis, MO	Sheldon Butt	Riley Probst	Rustler	Riley Probst
St. Louis, MO	Sheldon Butt	Roy Bohrer	I. Pseudacoris, Ivory (SPE)	J. W. Morris
			25, (5. 2)	

Parsons, KS	Lee Robbins	Mary C. Babcock	Silverado	Lee Robbins
Springfield, MO	Calvin Helsley	Jack & Karen Day	Corey's Pink (SIB)	Calvin Helsley
Washington, MO	Sheldon Butt	Bob & Linda Koch	Summer Serenade	Mary Ferguson
Wentzville, MO	Roy Bohrer	Sheldon Butt	Spinning Wheel	Ann & Riley Probst
Wichita, KS	Dorothy Dickson	Mike Hargrove	Chubby Cheeks (SDB)	Clancy Walz
Wichita, KS	Mike Hargrove	Dorothy Dickson	Silverado	Floyd Dyer
Jefferson City, MO REGION 19	ALL SEED	LING SHOW—(NO AWARDS (	OTHER THAN EXHIBITION C	ERTIFICATES)
Princeton, NJ	Mel Leavitt	Margaret Mullen	Aachen Elf (MTB)	Ray Blicharz
REGION 20 Colorado Springs, CO	Donald & Patricia Morgan	Tim Kuesel	Country Manor	Tim Kuesel
Denver, CO	Tim Kuesel	Duane & Kayellen Daily	Dazzling Gold	Duane & Kayellen Daily
REGION 21	Tilli Nacaci	buanc a Nayonon bany	Duzzinig dolu	Duane a Nayenen Dany
Columbus, NE	Don Peterson	Jim Bernt	Olympiad	Don Peterson
Lincoln, NE	Eugene Kalkwarf	Allan Ensminger	Special Feature	Allan Ensminger
Norfolk, NE	Marjorie Jansen	Larry Harder	Parrika's Fono	Marion Burleigh
Omaha, NE	Gaddie's Gardens	Jim Ennenga	Idol's Dream	Don Peterson
Sioux Falls, SD	Chuck & Signey Claussen	Mike Hemmer	Soul Music	Chuck & Signey Claussen
Sioux City, IO	Mary Jean Lotz	Larry Harder	Mary Frances	Floy Higman
Scotts Bluff, NE	Lu Hoyt	Julie Feil	Beaux Arts	Maggie Strauch
REGION 22				
Alva, OK	Alton C. Zimmerman	Freda Rhodes	Lord Jeff	Larry Thorne
Edmond, OK	Jim Hawley	Leigh Ellis	Silverado	Bill Clark
Enid, OK	Dana Wade	Bill Frass	Showcase	Dana Wade
Hobart, OK	Carmie Allen	Mrs. R. M. Kobs	Vanity	Mrs. R. M. Kobs
Hot Springs, AR	Susie Smith	Eileen Harrison	Pink Belle	Eileen Harrison
Lawton, OK	Joe & Maude Norton	Marjorie Puckett	Sky Hooks	Marjorie Puckett
Little Rock, AR	Tom Dillard	Mr./Mrs. Richard Butler	Red Echo (LA)	Mr./Mrs. Richard Butler
Oklahoma City, OK	Leigh Ellis	Genevieve Followwill	Stakers Heights	C. A. Cromwell
Oklahoma City, OK	Perry Dyer	Maxime Hawley	Picayune (BB)	Peggy Estes
Oklahoma City, OK	Paul Black	Kitty Dyer	Dusky Challenger	Paul Black
Ponca City, OK	Dorothy Dickson	Ray L. Cantwell	Entourage	John & Lil Williams
Tulsa, OK	Dean & Georgia Brand	Paul W. Gossett	Avanelle (IB)	Dean & Georgia Brand
Tulsa, OK	Dean & Georgia Brand	Dale Satterwhite	Crystal Glitters	Rilla Hickerson
Woodward, OK	Bea Williams	Dana Wade	Academy Awards	Hooker Nichols
Woodward, OK	Hooker Nichols	Lillian Luinstra, Irene Wilson		Hooker Nichols
REGION 23			- pass / ca (.2)	
Albuquerque, NM	Irene Shockey	Howard Shockey	Rare Form (AB)	Howard Shockey
Albuquerque, NM	Susan Latimer	Kreg Hill & William Christensen	Silverado	Howard Shockey
Albuquerque, NM	Valerie White	Bonnie Lowenstein	Dusky Challenger	Joe Pagano
Las Cruces, NM	Jeff Anderson	Mamie Myers	Afternoon Delight	Jeff Anderson
Roswell, NM	Sue Chambers	Letha Dent	Master Touch	Dorothy Cook
Santa Fe, NM	Larry Anaya	Pat Feather	Going My Way	Charles White
REGION 24	, ,		5 , ,	
Albertville, AL	Evelyn & Bill Oates	John Adkins	Titan's Glory	Ed Williamson
Huntsville, AL	Don Dunstone	Betty Burch	Jennifer Williamson	Don Dunstone
FALL SHOWS				
REGION 4				
Chesapeake &	Diana Nicholls	Richard Sparling	Grape Adventure	Richard Sparling
Potomac, VA		, ,		, ,
Tidewater, VA	Diana Nicholls	Lloyd Zurbrigg	Harvest of Memories	Clarence McKnew
	,	YOUTH SECTION	NC	
PLACE OF SHOW	SILVER MEDAL, Youth		BEST OF SHOW, Youth	EXHIBITOR, Youth
	OLVEN MEDAL, IOUN	DITOREL MEDAL, TOUR	DEST OF SHOW, TOUR	Exhibiton, loadi
REGION 5				
Decator, GA	Alisa Marzilli	Doug Grace	Garden Marble	Doug Grace
Milledgeville, GA	Danny Watson	Travis Hicks	Sunday Punch	Andrea Johnson
REGION 6				
Mansfield, OH	Seth Applegate	<del>-</del>	Country Manor	Cathy Ridenour
Mio, MI	Luke Ross	J. T. Ross	Tides In	Luke Ross
REGION 7				
Bowling Green, KY	Scott Lunty	_	Titans Glory	Scott Lunty
REGION 9				
Urbana, IL	Jason Wilhoit	Annilese Millar	Welch's Reward (MTB)	Jason Wilhoit
REGION 14				
Chico, CA	Bob Owen	=	Hell Cat (IB)	Bob Owen
Fresno, CA	John Montgomery	Mike Tyson	Solano	Mike Tyson
Hanford, CA	Richard Holaday, Jr.	John Montgomery	Song of Norway	Richard Holaday, Jr.
Redding, CA	Stephanie Bower	0:- 11:0	Churchill Downs	Stephanie Bower
Tulare, CA	Michele Matheny	Cris Matheny	Jesse's Song	Michele Matheny

Ukiah, CA	Elizabeth Lamb	Alissa Loberg	Superstition	Kendra Kendall
REGION 15	lan Lanan	1-# 11	December Affects	les l'esses
Phoenix, AZ REGION 18	lan Larson	Jeff Mosca	Dream Affair	lan Larson
Garden City, KS	Kenneth Smith	Shilo Gillam	Gingerbread Man (SDB)	Shilo Gillam
Garden City, KS	Kenneth Smith	Shilo Gillam	Tufted Cloud	Mike Ortiz
Wentzville, MO	Donna Wiseman	Scott Elgart & Chuck Elgart	Peacock's Eye (MTB)	Donna Wiseman
REGION 20				
Denver, CO	Mike McCarthy	Jeniffer Garcia & Karen Hall	Crackin	Mike McCarthy
Colorado Springs, CO REGION 22	Mike McCarthy	Shelly Moller	Lacy Snowflake	Mike McCarthy
Alva, OK	Brenda Rhodes	_	Lemon Mist	Brenda Rhodes
Edmond, OK	_	_	Mystique	Beth Bowman
Enid, OK	Brandon Hackett	Kathy Gildea	Temple Gold	Brandon Hackett
REGION 23		(C)	O1 1	
Albuquerque, NM	Kurt Latimer	Shannon Latimer	Olympiad	Kurt Latimer
Albuquerque, NM	Catherine Pagano	Eric Rogers & Kelly Doonan	Queen of Hearts	Catherine Pagano
	P	ARTISTIC SEC	TIONS	
		ARTISTIC		ARTISTIC
PLACE OF SHOW	BEST DESIGN	SWEEPSTAKES	BEST DESIGN, Youth	SWEEPSTAKES, Youth
REGION 1				
Aubum, ME	Alice Yates	Alice Yates	_	_
Shelburne Falls, MA	Pam Oakes	_	<del></del>	_
So. Portland, ME	Peter Young	Peter Young	_	_
So. Paris, ME	Alice Yates	Alice Yates	_	_
Waltham, MA	Diane Butler	_	<del>-</del>	_
REGION 2 Buffalo, NY	David Baehre	_	_	_
Cicero, NY	Mary Barany	_	_	_
REGION 3	may balany			
Kennett Square PA	Diane Mento	Diane Mento	<u></u>	_

REGION 1				
Auburn, ME	Alice Yates	Alice Yates	_	_
Shelburne Falls, MA	Pam Oakes	_		_
So. Portland, ME	Peter Young	Peter Young	_	_
So. Paris, ME	Alice Yates	Alice Yates	_	_
Waltham, MA	Diane Butler	_	_	_
REGION 2				
Buffalo, NY	David Baehre	_	_	_
Cicero, NY	Mary Barany	_	_	_
REGION 3				
Kennett Square, PA	Diane Mento	Diane Mento	_	_
Pittsburg, PA	_	Lenna Easter	_	_
York, PA	Audrey Thompson	_	_	_
REGION 4				
Charlotte, NC	Jessie Richardson	_	_	_
Fredericksburg, VA	Martha Carter	Martha Carter	_	_
Virginia Beach, VA	Frances Thrash	Pam Groover	_	_
REGION 5				
Anderson, SC	Frances Hart	_	_	_
Columbia, SC	Ione Johnson	_	_	_
Decator, GA	Mrs. Tom Roland	_	_	_
Milledgeville, GA	Adair Uhler	Adair Uhler	Danny Watson	Danny Watson
Spartanburg, SC	Marty Lippincott	Nell Kirby	_	_
Summerville, SC	Betty Black	Leora Moore	_	_
REGION 6				
Cleveland, OH	Dorothy Willott	Dorothy Willott	_	_
Fort Wayne, IN	Ruth Moorehead	_	_	_
Grand Rapids, MI	Ruth Levenduski	Ruth Levenduski	_	_
Grand Rapids, MI	Ruth Levendusky	Ruth Levendusky	_	_
Indianapolis, IN	Elsa Jones	Elsa Jones	_	_
Lansing, MI	Virginia Maynard	Virginia Maynard	_	_
Kalamazoo, MI	Tim Hemmer	Kathy Hemmer	_	_
Mansfield, OH	Martha Beal	Martha Beal	_	_
Mio, MI	Nelson Yoder	Eunice Smith	Luke Ross	Luke Ross
Muncie, IN	Betty Thomas	Ruth Moorhead	_	_
Portage, MI	Bernard Jones	Bernard Jones	_	_
Royal Oak, MI	Rose Smitka	<del>-</del>	_	-
REGION 7				
Bowling Green, KY	Ailene Tandy	Ailene Tandy	_	_
Louisville, KY	Helen Harrigan	Helen Harrigan	_	_
Memphis, TN	Mrs. Oneta Patton	_	_	_
Memphis, TN	Beverly Ray	_	_	_
Nashville, TN	Mary Lou Cost	_	_	_
Lebanan, MN	Sue Howell	Sue Howell	-	<del>-</del>
REGION 8		a		
Blaine, MN	Char Sindt	Char Sindt	_	_
Boerner, WI	Dorothy Vande	Dorothy Vande	=	_
Boerner, WI	Dorothy Vande	_	_	_

Fond du Lac, WI	Leslie Kolitz	_	_	_
Madison, WI	Keith Eirich	_	_	_
Mineota, MN	Rita Engels	_	_	_
Roseville, MN	Janice Krahn	Char Sindt	_	
REGION 9				
Freeport, IL	Nancy Pilipuf	Nancy Pilipuf	_	_
Glencoe, IL	Mrs. G. Richard Schreiber	Gerry Challender	_	_
Glencoe, IL (1989)	Gail E. Feerer	Gail E. Feerer	_	_
Lombard, IL	Bill Hessel	Bill Hessel	_	_
Lombard II	Eve Hessel	Bill Hessel	_	_

## ARTISTIC SECTIONS

ANTISTIC SECTIONS					
		ARTISTIC		ARTISTIC	
PLACE OF SHOW	BEST DESIGN	SWEEPSTAKES	BEST DESIGN, Youth	SWEEPSTAKES, Youth	
REGION 11					
Missoula, MT	Ronn Dunn	Ken Baier	_	_	
REGION 12					
Layton, UT	Charlotte Easter	Randy Brown	_	_	
Salt Lake City, UT	Charlotte Easter	<u> -</u>	_	_	
Salt Lake City, UT	Candy R. Thomas	Candy R. Thomas	_	_	
REGION 13	ountry in monac				
Portland, OR	Laura Montz	Laurie Ystad	_	_	
Portland, OR	Elsie Skinner	Nancy Miller	_	<u>-</u>	
Richland, WA	Joan Frazer	—	_	_	
Puyallup, WA		Evelyn Henley	_	_	
Walla Walla, WA	Mary Jane Millard		_		
REGION 14	Ivialy varie ivillaru	_			
	Claudia Owan	Cloudia Owen			
Chico, CA	Cloudia Owen	Cioudia Oweri	_		
Hanford, CA	Barbara Temple	Man Man de Bay	_	_	
Las Vegas, NV	Mrs. Marvin Ray	Mrs. Marvin Ray	Ota da aria Danna		
Redding, CA	Georgia Maxim	Georgia Mazim	Stephanie Brower	Stephanie Brower	
Tulare, CA	Dorothy Dominici	Sharon Misenhimer	Cris Matheny		
Ukiah, CA	Lolita Falconer	Jean Near	Angie Nunes	Angie Nunes	
REGION 15					
Arcadia, CA	Eileen Fiumara	Eileen Fiumara	_	_	
Arcadia, CA	Eileen Fiumara	Eileen Fiumara	_	_	
Palmdale, CA	Jan Borg	_		_	
Phoenix, AZ	Clemence Newcomb	Clemence Newcomb	Stacie Abbitt	Cristal Parkinson	
Riverside, CA	Winnie Conklin	Winnie Conklin	_	_	
San Diego, CA	Dorothy Driscoll	_	_	_	
Tucson, AZ	Elsa McLean	Elsa McLean	_	_	
REGION 17					
Austin, TX	Pat Freeman	_	_	_	
Dallas, TX	Bob Schumann	Jim Summersgill	_	_	
Denison, TX	Gordon Green	Gordon Green	_	_	
Lubbock, TX	RoseMary English	Jo Hearn	_	_	
Midland, TX	Mrs. J. A. Mills	Mrs. J. A. Mills	_	_	
Sherman, TX	Wynnona Green	Wynnona Green	_	<u>_</u>	
Wichita Falls, TX	Eura Hawkins	Mary Waldo	_	_	
REGION 18	Lara Hawkino	way water			
Agusta, KS	Helen Reynolds	_	_	_	
DeSota, MO	Dorothy Jackson	Dorothy Jackson			
Dodge City, KS	Gertrude Goddard	Marti Woods			
	Betty Langston		Shilo Gillam		
Garden City, KS Garden City, KS		Betty Langston		Nic Cmith	
The state of the s	Tonya Enriquez	Tonya Enriquez	Nic Smith	Nic Smith	
Hays, KS	Cheryl Traub	Cheryl Traub/Irma Torrey	_		
Hays, KS	Jeanette Tammen	Janette Tammen/	_		
Hatelian NO	0 . 4 . 0 :	Cherryl Traub			
Hutchinson, KS	Saundra Grimm	Saundra Grimm	_	_	
Japlin, MO	Charlotte Duke	Florence Brower	-	_	
Kansas City, MO	Faye Carpenter	Faye Carpenter	_	_	
St. Louis, MO	Jo Anne Finke	Rita Kinsella	_	_	
St. Louis, MO	Rita Kinsella	Rita Kinsella/Roy Bohrer	_	<del>-</del>	
Parsons, KS	Lucy Pearce	Lucy Pearce	_	_	
Springfield, MO	Gladys Jones	Gladys Jones	_	_	
Washington, MO	Verna Schmid	Rosa Kampschroeder	_	_	
Wentzville, MO	Cathy Perry	Betty Bohrer	Scott Elgart	_	
Wichita, KS	Betty Jean Bowlin	Betty Jean Bowlin	_	_	
Wichita, KS	Lowell Markley	Lowell Markley	_	_	
REGION 20					
Colorado Springs, CO	Suzanne Rogers	Suzanne Rogers	Jessica Knudtson	_	
Denver, CO	Elizabeth Schwyhart	Fran Wittgartner	Shelly Moller	Shelly Moller	
		The state of the s			

### ARTISTIC SECTIONS

PLACE OF SHOW REGION 21	BEST DESIGN	SWEEPSTAKES	BEST DESIGN, Youth	SWEEPSTAKES
Columbas, NE	Don Peterson	Don Peterson		mese
Norfolk, NE	Marion Burleigh	Marion Burleigh	63006	*****
Omaha, NE	Roger Mazur	Roger Mazur	970409	CHECKS
Sioux Falls, NE	Mike Hemmer	Mike Hemmer	CCIOCH	MITTAN
Sioux City, IO	Dennis Wolf	Dennis Wolf		COMMON .
Scotts Bluff	Артина	Daureen Baker	actions	eminion
REGION 22				
Edmond, OK	Karen Hirsch	Karen Hirsch	Matt Hursch (4-10)	Matt Hursch (4-10)
			Elizabeth Snyder (11-18)	Elizabeth Snyder 11-18)
Enid, OK	Ruth Ransom	Ruth Ransom, Veda	Соколи	elefendos
Linhart OV	Mrs. Poud Douis	Moore, Carolyn Lester		
Hobart, OK	Mrs. Boyd Davis Alessandra Hurst	Mrs. Boyd Davis Tim Hassel	And the second s	GUNCO
Hot Springs, AR		***************************************	<b>636</b>	name a
Lawton, OK	Mary Ann Holman	Mary Ann Holman	(MACCIO)	<del>describ</del>
Little Rock, AR	Tom Dillard	Doris Boyles Genevieve Followwill	elicione	emaso
Oklahoma City, OK	Maxine Followwill		EMID	Numbe
Oklahoma City, OK	Virginia Gregory	Virginia Gregory	603ma	economic
Ponca City, OK	Delia Castor	Delia Castor	c-magns	Tierre
Tulsa, OK	Kay Burnham	Kaye Bumham	Checking	ennes
REGION 23	Man at 191	hone Delles	O-4h	O-41
Albuquerque, NM	Kreg Hill	June Ballog	Catherine Pagano	Catherine Pagano
Las Cruces, NM	Fern Gold	Donna Holland	· ·	(натио
Roswell, NM	Alta Patterson	Elda Keith	GRAZINO.	Pethon()
Santa Fe, NM	Slyvia Chauez	Slyvia Chauez	*****	COMPINE CATCHER
REGION 24 Albertville, AL		Corrie Reed		_

### **EDUCATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL**

Place of Show	Educational Exhibit	Commercial Exhibit
REGION 1 Waltham, MA	Larry Doucette	
REGION 2 Cicero, NY	John & Helen Schueler	militeration
REGION 4 Towson, MD	Daniel Schlanger	GENTARIO
REGION 5 Spartanburg, SC Summerville, SC	— Kathy Woolsey	Everette & Ann Lineberger
REGION 7 Bowling Green, KY Memphis, TN Nashville, TN Nashville, TN	Betty Wilkerson Bill & Virginia Groves Cynda Ferguson/Irene Love Margaret & Robert Joines	
REGION 11 Missoula, MT	Ken & Rose Mary Baier	MODELS AND ADDRESS
REGION 13 Portland, OR	60700000	Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden
Portland, OR	others and the second s	Cooley's Iris Garden
Portland, OR	charactes	Schreiner's Iris Garden Lauries Garden, Shepards Gardens, Caprice Farms- Nursery, Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden

Walla Walla, WA		Holley's Flowers
REGION 15 Phoenix, AZ	Frances Adams	Kary Iris Gardens Shepard's Gardens Superstition Gardens
Riverside, CA	<del></del>	Cal-Dixie Gardens Hammer's Iris Gardens
REGION 18 Garden City, KS Hays, KS Hays, KS Joplin, MO St. Louis, MO	Shilo Gillam (Youth) Geneva Dies Geneva Dies Mary Brown Bob Pries	
St. Louis, MO Wentsville, MO Garden City, KS	Robert Priess Brett Reed Shilo (Youth)	
REGION 19 Princeton, NJ	Nancy Szmuriga	_
REGION 20 Denver, CO	David Shannon	
REGION 21 Omaha, NE Scottsbluff, NE	Jim Ennenga Betty Salisteam Viola Schreiner	_
Ocottobium, NE	viola ocinicino	
REGION 22 Edmond, AR	Mary Watson	_
Hot Springs, AR Lawton, OK Oklahoma, OK Oklahoma, OK Ponca City, OK	Bonnie Hadaway Bruce Richards Marjorie Puckett Louise Carson — Sarah Hoecker (Youth)	— — Chris Vizvarie Chris Vizvarie —
REGION 23 Albuquerque, NM	Janet Bench	_
REGION 24 Huntsville, AL	Mrs. Jane Desmond	_

# NUMBER OF SHOWS REPORTED BY REGION

Region	Number of Shows	Position
18	20	1
22	15	2
14	15	
6	13	4
17	11	5

7	10	6
	8	7
15 8	7	8
13	7	
	7	
4	7 7 7 7 6	11
3	6	
5	6	
9	6	
21 4 3 5 9 23	6	
1 12 2	6	
12	3	17
2	2	18
20	6 3 2 2 2	
24	2	
10	1	21
11	1	
19	1	
16	0	24

# 1990 AIS AWARDS

#### W. A. PAYNE AWARD (JI)

**VOTES** 

26 CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY (W. MARX/D. ROGERS)

#### runnersup

- 18 WINE RUFFLES (W. ACKERMAN)
- 14 HEGIRA (S. INNERST)
- 12 RUFFLED DIMITY (L. REID)
- 11 GRAPE FIZZ (W. ACKERMAN)
- 11 ROYAL GAME (A. VOGT/H. STAHLY)

#### **HONORABLE MENTION (JI)**

- 55 JAPANESE PINWHEEL (C. McEWEN)
- 36 IAPETUS (S. INNERST)
- 32 CASCADE CREST (T. AITKEN)
- 26 EDGE OF FROST (M. DIENSTBACH)
- 24 CAPANEUS (S. INNERST)
- 21 MIDNIGHT STARS (T. AITKEN)
- 16 DOUBLE FIRST (C. McEWEN)
- 15 ORIENTAL CLASSIC (C. McEwen)
- 15 SPRINGTIME SHOWERS (L. REID)
- 12 JOCASTA (S. INNERST)
- 12 OL' MAN RIVER (C. McEWEN)
- 11 JAPANESE PRINCESS (C. McEWEN)

# **HIGH COMMENDATION 1990**

TALL BEARDED

**VOTES** 

AITKEN, T.

17 82T19

8 85T-18

CRAIG, V. & J.

5 C34T42

ENNENGA, J.

9 E-85-16-1

GATTY, J.

15 Q30-1A

HOAGE, J.

7 H80-3E

INNERST, S.

8 2187-13

JOHNSON, R.

5 Q-200

KEGERISE, EV.

30 BRONZE STAR (83-401-1)

13 83-462-2

KEPPEL, K.

11 83-8-A

MAGEE, T.

5 ATLANTA BELLE

5 SUN POLKA

MAHAN, C.

6 VIOLET MUSIC (85 x 9)

MILLER, A.

9 80-221

MILLER, D.

6 84-2A

PROTZMAN, C.

5 88-21

RODERICK, E.

5 8404A

**SCHREINERS** 

6 AA 2012A

SHOOP, G.

16 84-15

STADLER, J.

7 J-29-9

STAHLY, H.

8 86-6

5 87-5

STANEK, T.

7 85-1

**BORDER BEARDED** 

HUMMEL, H.

5 82-73T

MAGEE, T.

9 COLORADO AMBROSIA

5 SWEETIE GIRL

MARKHAM, L.

6 66-18A

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

HARDER, L.

21 CHAGRIN (85-1)

JONES, B.

7 CALIFORNIA STYLE (IN853-3)

NICHOLS, H.

5 ROYAL GOSSIP

WILLOTT, A. & D.

7 89-83

6 89-66

6 89-96

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

DUNDERMAN, D.

7 JJ-153

7 EE 28

FISHER, K.

6 ZULA (L-1)

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

MACHULAK, A.

5 85-35-25

WILLOTT, A. & D.

9 88-6

6 PRINCESS BLUEBEARD (88-26)

5 88-31

**SIBERIAN** 

WILLOTT, A. & D.

6 85-71

**JAPANESE** 

AITKEN, T.

12 86J-1-2

8 85J-2

WHITE, J.

7 86-L-7

7 86-L-24

# American Iris Society Exhibition Certificates Issued During 1990 Show Season

TALL BEARDED		McKnew, Jane	1-2	
Adkins, John	???	Roach, Orvil	OR-89-648	
Aitkens, Terry	86-J-1-15	Roberts, Ed	882	
Allen, Jim	T22A	Shepard, Donald	8673	
Bingham, Jim	84-2-6	Shockey, Howard	86-245-A	
84-4-3		Staley, Hal	86-6	
Black, Polly	BR90	Sutton, George	8-308	
Boyd, Harry	82-23-1	Cameri, alosi go	C-24-A	
Burke, James	88BUA	Turner, Harry	5-86	
Cochran, Helen	83-06-A	Willott, Anthony	86-87	
Craig, Vicki	31T15			
Doonan, Sara	86-35-5	BORDER BEARDED		
Ensminger, Allen	85-18	Anaya, Larry	Keeka Do	
Ernst, Richard (Cooley's)	F102-3	Burch, James	41-9	
Euer, Bob	MMSK-1	Byers, Monty	F53-1	
Fillmore, Keith	8727-2	Hickerson, Rilla	81-32-3	
Fort, Lyle E.	87-20B	Lysne, Rod (1989)	80-13M	
Freund, Richard	F86-P1	Miller, Lynda	5185	
Gass, John A.	G-85-30	•		
Gerhardt, George	B6 26-5	MINIATURE TALL BEARDED		
Ghio, Joe	Notorious	Johnson, Roy & Bev	89-3	
Hammer, Bernard	88-53	•		
Hemmer, Mike	MH-85-14	INTERMEDIATE BEARDED		
Hickerson, Alva J. (Rilla)	83-3-1	Boswell, Carl & LaRue	3-84-31	
Innerst, Sterling & Barbara	2816-1	Brown, Opal	82-18B2	
The state of the s	2149-1	Budinger, Paula	87-24-F	
Johnson, Royal	R 101A	Dyer, Floyd	D-112-88-C	
Kegerise, Mrs. Grant	87-808	Vizvarie, Chris	1B-BB-1	
Kelsey, Ed	BDBB	Wadekamper, Julius	IB 87-6	
Leavitt, Mel	M-90-1			
Lyons, Ray	8450-1	STANDARD DWARF BEA	RDED	
Lytle, Truman	TL076185	Black, Paul	87137A	
Mallory, Robert	GGS12	Blodgett, Romona A.	D88-27A	
Michel, Leonard	C-163-1	Bohrer, Roy	90-CMSP	
Miller, Lynda	3185A	Jefferies, Bob	J83-D1-B	
Moller, Mike 82-C		Jones, Bennett	362-1B	
Mueller, Adam	86-B	Niswonger, O. David	Kiwi Slices	
Nichols, Hooker	8716C	Worel, Jack	44	
	8856D	Vizvarie, Chris	86-14A	
	88044A			
Boogie Woogie		MINIATURE DWARF Bearded		
	ty Reflections	Reeves, Clem	F-65-1	
Parker, Eula	#49	Sindt, David B.	Sindt 786	
Phillips, William	88-8			

	SPECIE	
80-76-11-	Bishop, Harry	HB79FJ (Robusta)
YST		
86-8	JAPANESE	
74/183	Innerst, Sterling & Barbara 3246-	
85-20-15	Ackerman, Dr. William A-4-4	
S87-9-5	Vogt, Adolph	A4473
W-2-87	Wood, John	N-101-89
	White, John	86-M-10
AB-87-2	SPURIA	
90-2	Lange, Anthony	Cheers
4	McCown, Eleanor	#88-1
L-676-BT		
89-42	ARIL.	
LP-2-90	Best, Sam	SB-84-001
	Bruno, Russ	89-41
	Danielson, Louella	89-10
	Fry, J & L	78-F-123
CAW-2	Shockey, Howard	82-24-OA
	YST 86-8 74/183 85-20-15 S87-9-5 W-2-87 AB-87-2 90-2 4 L-676-BT 89-42	80-76-11- YST  86-8 JAPANESE  74/183 Innerst, Sterling & Bar 85-20-15 Ackerman, Dr. William S87-9-5 Vogt, Adolph W-2-87 Wood, John White, John  AB-87-2 SPURIA 90-2 Lange, Anthony McCown, Eleanor  L-676-BT 89-42 LP-2-90 Best, Sam Bruno, Russ Danielson, Louella SOS-1 Fry, J & L

# **Additional Guest Irises for Atlanta**

The members of Region 5 wish to thank the contributors and hybridizers who have sent irises for the 1992 National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. Approximately 1070 varieties have been received.

With thirteen gardens now on tour for this convention, there is still plenty of space available for additional bearded irises. In order to assure a good display in 1992, please send bloom-sized rhizomes in quantities up to 6 per variety for planting in pairs in each tour garden. Please do not send duplicates of what was sent last year. These rhizomes will be accepted between March 15, 1991 and September 30, 1991.

Refer to page 17 of the April 1900 AIS Bulletin for labeling information and rules. Please note the following clarification of guideline #:9 "Unless otherwise directed, only 10 rhizomes of each variety will be returned postpaid, except to foreign addresses. Any additional rhizomes will either be destroyed or returned C.O.D. as instructed by the contributor on the disposal form."

Steve and Janet Embry 1992 Guest Iris Chairmen 867 Rockbridge Way Norcross, Georgia 30093 404-923-4828

#### **BULLETIN ERRATA**

In the review of the Wulf Garden by Virginia Hodges in the October, 1990, Bulletin, credit was given to the wrong hybridizer. The sentence read: "LOVER'S DREAM (Keppel)—." It should have read: "LOVER'S DREAM (Carr), WILDEST DREAMS (Keppel)—."

#### **AWARDS ERRATA**

Maria Tormena won an HM in 1989, so it should not appear on the 1990 HM list

LITTLE SUNRISE was listed as LITTLE SUNROSE.

APRIL FRESH is a Mildred Brizendine iris, not J. and L. Fry.

# **BOYS' TOWN**

Dean Brand (Oklahoma)

Boys' Town is located on 1300 acres just northwest of Omaha. It is a complete community with its own Post Office, Security Force, School System, etc., and is home to over 500 troubled boys and girls. The beautiful grounds are immaculately maintained by the residents of Boys' Town and afforded a lovely setting for the Convention Master Planting.

As someone else is assigned to report on the median bloom at Boys' Town, I will limit comments to the tall bearded with two exceptions: MORNING SHOW (Ensminger '88) a medium red with good branching, and MAUI MOONLIGHT (Aitken '87) a pale lemon yellow, are two terrific IB's and were both putting on quite a show for the conventioneers.

Although this garden was clearly some time away from peak bloom for the talls, there was still quite a lot to see. Approximately 25% of the nearly 700 talls planted here were in bloom by the final day of tours.

Keith Keppel had several really good ones in bloom including the eventual Cook Cup winner RUSTLER ('88) with amber brown standards and henna brown falls. This is beautiful and a real garden standout. The gorgeous clump here is most assuredly the reason RUSTLER was voted the cup. Other Keppel beauties included:

FARAWAY PLACES ('88) a lovely but difficult to describe color; perhaps a dark rose wine, tan apricot blend.

RASPBERRY FUDGE ('89) a runner up for the Cook Cup has yellow ground standards, the yellow barely visible through the heavy tan raspberry infusion. Falls are cream with darker brown raspberry border.

JITTERBUG ('88) is a personal favorite. It has bright yellow standards and yellow ground falls with all over peppering of red.

SNOWBROOK ('87) is pure class. White with narrow blue border on falls only. Another Californian with "bloomin' good luck" at Boys' Town was Joe Ghio. His MEMOIRS ('88) was giving RUSTLER some competition as the best

clump in the garden. MEMOIRS is an unusual color best described as a dusty rose to toasted peach blend with lovely ruffled form and great stalks.

IMPRESSIONIST ('88) has amber to rose standards and rose wine falls with lighter stripe down center. Tall and very impressive, it is aptly named.

IMPRESSIONIST ('88) has amber to rose standards and rose wine falls with lighter stripe down center. Tall and very impressive, it is aptly named.

HOT STREAK ('88) is vibrant with bright yellow standards and yellow ground falls with russet plicata edging.

ESMERALDA ('88) now correctly classed as a tall is perhaps my favorite in this color class. It is a beautiful deep orange with lots of ruffles and super form, naturally.

Other talls which impressed included:

**ACOMA** (Magee '90) Light blue standards and white falls edged and veined light violet with just a touch of lace. It's every bit as pretty as the picture in the April 1990 bulletin.

**AMAZON BRIDE** (Hager '88) is white with narrow bright yellow band on all petals.

ASTEROID (Carr '88) A yellow so bold you practically need to wear sunglasses to look at it. Standards are solid color and falls appear to have a white ground center area with bold yellow stripes which gradually fade out to the barely discernible white ground. I've never seen anything quite like this one. CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE (Niswonger '87) is truly elegant in pastel coloring of pink buff standards and creamy apricot falls.

ENTERTAINMENT (Nichols '90) is a tall well branched white self.

FRINGE BENEFITS (Hager '88) is probably the laciest orange around. Very nice.

GLITZ'N' GLITTER (Black '88) is a gaudy, but pretty concoction of yellow and purple. If you like them wild; get this one.

INTERNATIONAL INTRIGUE (Black '89) is a somewhat different colored variegata with bright yellow standards and garnet falls. Tall and well branched.

**LILLIAN LEE** (Nichols '89) has old gold standards over dark purple falls and lavender beards.

MARIA TORMENA (Ensminger '87) is pink with small streaks and splashes of purple on all petals. Strange and pretty.

**ORCHID PINSTRIPE** (Lyons '89). Very unique. White with neat orchid pinstripes traversing the full length of the petals.

**POINT MADE** (Innerst '88) is another wild one. Tan buff standards sit atop white ground falls irregularly streaked and splashed with a blackish grape color and with a very narrow edge of the same blackish grape. You may or may not like it (I do) but it's guaranteed to catch one's eye.

**PURGATORY** (Moores '87) with dark orange standards and rich red brown falls is still one of my favorite recent introductions.

SATIN SATAN (Weiler '86) is a nice near black self.

SKYSAILS (Magee '85) is a light blue blended darker with flaring rounded blossoms on tall, well branched stalks; a much overlooked variety.

STELLAR LIGHTS (Aitken '86) is blue violet with distinctive white area below white beard; great stalks make it even more desirable.

**SUMMER WHITE** (Rogers '84) was new to me. It is a very nice white self with a slight green tint and white to yellow beard. It has excellent form and fair branching on a not too tall stalk.

WAY OUT WEST (Nichols '90) has brown standards and yellow ground falls stitched dark brown. There is a white area below the bronze gold beard.

For me the highlight of this garden was not a named variety but a seedling. From her STEADY PACE, Kegerise 83-401-1 (now named BRONZE STAR) is an absolutely gorgeous orange brown with lovely flaring form on tall stalks with three branches plus the terminal. There were 6 perfect show stalks in this clump although only one was in bloom. It appeared as if it could easily open 4 well spaced blossoms at once. Based on a one time viewing, I would say that this is probably the most impressive new variety I have seen in several years. I can't wait for Evelyn to introduce this so I can add it to my collection.

A couple of other seedlings which looked interesting were: Stanek 85-1 with blue gray standards and greenish falls with a small blue blaze. Tim said he is working with this trying to get the falls more yellow. I like it as is.

Gatty Q30-1A has lavender pink standards and orange falls. Very interesting and good stalks also.

A big pat on the back to the irisarians of Region 21 for a well run convention and a big thank you for the lovely gardens and all the hard work we know went into making them so. When can we come back again?

# Median Bloom in Nebraska

Lucy Fry (Kansas)

The unseasonable cold this spring proved to be a boon for Median iris fans. Weather that held back the tall bearded irises kept the IBs, BBs, and MTBs at peak.

Visiting the master planting at Boys Town on two separate days made for a more balanced viewing and by the second visit included lots of tall bearded. Terry Aitken's '86 IB BUBBLY BLUE and '87 MAUI MOONLIGHT are both heavily ruffled irises with good branching and up to 6 buds per stalk in well grown clumps. Carl Boswell's '89 IB APRICOT ALA MODE with golden peach standards and white falls banded the color of the standards is a lush and pleasing color. It was blooming short but the perky form made up for it. It normally grows at the correct height. MTBs CRYSTAL RUFFLES '86 and JOLLY JIM '88 of Mary Louise Dunderman are excellent ruffled whites. JOLLY JIM may flare a bit more. Both are listed as having orange beards, but seemed more yellow in Omaha. I noted Allan Ensminger's BB COLOR BRITE of '87 because of its intriguing color. Standards are pale violet with pink infusion which is reflected on the style arms. The falls showed deeper pink hafts and sported a tangerine beard. Ken Fisher's MTBs seem to get better and better. His OZARK SKY '90 is a well formed blue violet and white plic with a dusky

gold beard. The star attraction was the lovely L1, which we later learned had been named and introduced this year as ZULA for Zula Hanson. The standards are golden brown with gold style arms. The falls are white with scattered golden brown plic marks. Dorothy Guild's '89 MTB LITTLE JAZZ MAN is a new and unusual color in the MTB class, a smooth dark red violet, but the form is like the older MTBs with rather narrow hafts and with style arms extending over the falls. Her LILAC TOQUE of '89 has good form and smooth coloring in a lilac and violet bitone. The late blooming SDB CHOCOLATE CUPCAKE by Robert Jeffries '89 was aptly named with its tan standards and red brown falls edged tan. Typical of SDB bloom, the last stalk was a bit tall for the class but sported 3 buds. Carol Lankow's '90 IB, LADY DAY, is a white of exceptional substance and flaring falls set off by an orange beard and is a joy to see. Of the many introductions of Hooker Nichols, his '90 BB LENORA PEARL is a most lovely shade of pink with a coral beard. IB ROYAL GOSSIP is a well formed plum and white plic with dusky beard. As grown here, it exceeded the height and size with one side of the clump being much higher than the rest of the clump. His horned IB HELGA'S HAT is white with yellow hafts and white horns. The horns were variable with not every beard having a horn. OBLIGATO, Hal Stahly's '88 IB was showing its lush peach with tangerine beard to good advantage and within class. John Weiler's '89 BB FRIZZY LIZZY is a very showy bright orange with tangerine beards. Like many of the medians in this garden, it was growing out of class. It is an outstanding color.

The Hummel's Bumble Bee Garden was immaculate, clean and weedless beds showing promise of great bloom later in the season. Over in a corner was a bed of SDBs, a few MTBs and aril medians that caused many comments. Tom Magee's SDBs attracted many viewers. HANKY '88 is a perky yellow with lavender edge and midribs over yellow falls with lavender plic marks. TUFFET, '88, is a sib to HANKY, but the edge and plic marks give a more grey effect. Elsewhere in the garden, many of Ensminger's IBs and BBs were right at home. MORNING SHOW '88 was outstanding. The maroon coloring was accented by the velvety falls and brown-maroon beard. This was one of several gardens growing it well enough to earn it the President's Cup.

The Kalkwarf's Emerald Valley Garden was another of the more northern gardens where the medians were more numerous than the talls. Jimmy Burch's BB MISS NELLIE '83 was in a nice clump and within size. Its blended standards over red-violet falls is distinctive and hard to describe, but it is never mistaken for anything else. Although no Ensminger irises were listed as guests, there were several doing well. 1986's IB MAMA HOO HOO is a clean yellow with white spot at the end of the beard. AIN'T SHE SWEET '86 is a nice white with blue edging.

The Ensminger's Varigay Garden had a profusion of bloom in his seedling patch and in the guest beds. Not really enough time to see and appreciate was given for this garden. John Durrance had a BB under seedling number that has since been named RED ROOSTER. This is a maroon red with velvety falls and nice form. It was growing right up there with the talls around it. The

Craig's 1989 MTB PAYOFF with white standards and dark purple falls and a yellow orange beard was in proportion and height. In other gardens, it tended to be either too tall or too short with larger blooms. Many of the present tetraploid MTBs seem to have lost the daintiness that defines the class. Walter Moores' '84 BB PINCH OF SPICE is a golden yellow sprinkled with nutmeg at the base of the standards and on the hafts. It is certainly well named.

Larry Harder's Maple Tree Garden has a well established garden with many unusual plants among the irises. I find that my notes are on irises not in the display beds. Floyd Dyer's 1987 IB RED TIME is a red bitone from the brown side accented by gold styles and beard. SUNNY DAWN, Bennett Jones' 1989 IB introduction has peach standards over yellow falls with peach spot and red beard. The '86 MTB of Bee Warburton, TYKE, is a well branched white over purple falls displaying good form and proportion.

Wulf's Backachers showed the loving care of Hank and Opal Wulf. The guest beds held numerous TBs and medians in bloom. Monty Byers' '89 IB LIKE A CHARM has yellow standards with lighter falls, full yellow hafts plus violet beard and horns. Sterling Innerst's '89 BB CHAPTER has golden standards and falls washed blue violet with rim of gold. Lovely, but with 5½ inch blooms. The Wulf's own collection of MTBs attracted much attention in their bed by the house. Most were growing at a uniform height. Among them were CANDYLAND, CONCORD SPRITE, DISCO JEWEL, and TEENY BIKINI. I was not familiar with STRIKING GOLD, Guild '82. This is a dainty gold with brown marks on the falls.

The DeNaeyer's Iris Den had sustained heavy damage from a recent storm and bloom was very spotty. Although it was blooming very short, I liked the soft pink of Ben Hager's MTB LITTLE ME '88 with its muted orange beard.

The Drickey's Little By Little Garden is set on a beautifully landscaped slope. The iris planting near the back terrace included Gene Gaddie's 1990 IB WIDE BLUE EYES. This is a blue-white with well held open standards and falls with a wide blue diffuse area and white hafts. Hooker Nichols' '85 IB, THEDA CLARK, is violet with darker hafts and a violet beard. All alone, at the corner of the house was an SDB with a last bloom. This deep purple was topped with a wide blue beard. I was unable to find it in the check lists, but it is aptly named.

Mickey Anson makes her home on the Schliefert homestead and maintains the gardens that her father, Arnold Schliefert, started. The beds were set among the established trees and shrubs. Jimmy Burch had several BBs doing well. KIRSCH is a deep red with darker velvety falls. MAINSTAY is his new and beautiful pink with coral pink beard. BIG VICTORY is a ruffled white with yellow beard. Allan Ensminger's IB WAMPUM from '83 is a maroon with a violet blaze at the tip of a maroon beard.

The Sass Memorial Garden was maintained by the Greater Omaha Iris Society. Many of the Sass introductions were in the center of the planting and displayed color combinations that have not been duplicated in modern form. It was also a surprise to spot oldies with very modern form and substance. Many of us recognized old friends we grew and somehow lost. In other beds,

Terry Aitken's HELLCAT, IB of '83, a ruffled blue over dark purple velvet and bushy violet beard was doing well. Ensminger's 1990 BLUE EYED BLOND is a well named yellow with blue beard. There is no question that Allan's irises like the Nebraska weather for many of the irises doing well in all gardens were his. I noted MORNING SHOW, FEATHERED FRIEND, and BATIK with the Ensminger signature of the broken color pattern.

I may not have described your favorite median, but I tried to report on a few from each garden and irises from many hybridizers.

# The Ones That Get Away

Lynn F. Markham (Massachusetts)

In his article in the July, 1990 Bulletin, Ron Mullin made some excellent points about the difficulties we are experiencing these days with the Dykes Medal in particular and the awards system in general. In closing, he touched briefly upon what I truly think is the most serious problem we have, and it deserves some further probing. That is, "the superior irises that never get an HM because they don't get the distribution or recognition they deserve."

1990 was my first year back on the Garden Judges' roster after a hiatus of well over ten years. In cruising all over New England to see what's new and more importantly, what the hybridizers are doing, I found a really heartening depth of activity in breeding in almost every class, but I found a couple of other things that are extremely disturbing: first, that excellent seedlings are being seen by less than the number of judges needed to get them an HC award; and second, that there are named and introduced irises of top award quality which have failed even to get an HM. Oops! Apparently, something is wrong here.

This article is not for the purpose of laying blame for a situation, but rather, to suggest what can be done, and in making my comments on the subject, I am very well aware that there are individuals who not only do not need them, but who could well suggest a few things I haven't even thought of. I invite them to speak up!

There are three groups of people in charge of what happens to new irises in marketplace, and I'd like to address them individually. Each group can "do something about it".

## Hybridizers, Help Yourselves!:

First off, be very sure that what you propose to introduce is really superior. If you are an unknown, nobody is going to take it on faith that what you have produced is good. You have no "reputation". The upshot of that is that you won't sell a ton of your new introduction sight unseen, and can't depend upon sales to get the plant distributed. But don't resent the people who can—they've *earned* the right. If every single iris you introduce is a fine garden variety, then over time you can build a reputation too.

Try to get cut stalks of your hottest prospects to shows, and give them a chance at the EC award. It's not a recommendation for introduction, but it's a form of recognition, and it can only help you. Your successful show entry will almost certainly attract judges to your garden to see it in its natural setting, and to find out what else you're doing!

Don't hurry to get your new "baby" into commerce. Because you are an unknown, and *won't* sell that ton of your new introduction, you may be putting yourself in the position of having this new variety dropped from the HM list before it has been seen and appreciated by enough judges to get it the award, even if it is terrific. So, bear in mind that if an iris is good in 1990, it will still be good in 1992 or even 1995, and spend the interim getting stock spread around. Send it to conventions. Place it with friends in the region who grow a lot of new things and whose gardens are visited regularly by many judges. Try to establish some contacts in other parts of the country, so that you can guest in other regions as well. Back in the 60's, I did a lot of plant-swapping with robin contacts, as well as friends in and out of the region. We helped each other evaluate plants in a variety of soils and climates. It's a fine, viable method. Use it. DISTRIBUTE! Never mind that you may be losing sales. In fact, you're not. There won't be any sales unless you can demonstrate to the buying public that you have something special to sell.

If you are really a small operation and don't have the capacity to grow and ship optimum stock, try to find a reputable commercial grower to introduce for you, or co-introduce with you. Carefully chosen, this person can help you immeasurably in marketing your creations, not to mention relieve you of the responsibility of cataloguing, handling orders, packing, shipping, etc. Never mind that you'll be sharing the "wealth". Half of something is better than all of nothing!

Finally, it should go without saying, but I'll say it anyway: DON'T introduce your also-rans so that you can pass them out as extras, and DON'T feel pressed to have an introduction every year. Anything inferior that bears your name will come back to haunt you, lose your business, and cause the judges to look elsewhere for award potential.

## Judges, Help Your Hybridizers!:

Judges have a broad spectrum of responsibilities, including conventions, shows, tours, meetings, judges' training sessions, and on and on. The season is short, and by definition, hectic. Sometimes, something's got to give. However, what that something should *not* be is the evaluation of the region's seedlings, wherever they may be growing. As I see it, one of the most important functions of a garden judge is to know what is going on in the hybridizing gardens in his/her region, *including* the gardens in which there are only a few seedlings. We are here to seek out what is good, and "Gold is where you find it", as they say. I found it this year in some large hybridizing gardens. I also found it in some very *small* gardens where there were only a handful of seedlings to see. Get around! Look!

When you've found something special, don't make a secret of it—let other judges know about it and suggest they make the effort to see it too. And make a note to see it again, either in another garden, if the breeder has guested it out, or the following season. Then, if you're still impressed, say so on the HC section of your ballot! Don't underestimate the importance of the HC. It is a consensus recommendation by the judges that a new variety is worthy of introduction, and as such, it will substantially boost sales of that variety. That, in turn, will help the plant get distributed and seen nation-wide, and give it a much better chance at the higher awards.

But there is more to be gained by visiting the hybridizing gardens than just finding things worthy of awards. Breeders appreciate the observations of other knowledgeable irisarians about their seedlings. Unless the breeder is a judge him/herself, chances are that the judge has seen a great many more commercial varieties than the breeder has, and will know whether a seedling is really better than or substantially different from what is already in commerce. This can cut two ways—the judge can dissuade the breeder from introducing something that is really not good or different enough, OR (and it happens a lot) spot something really important that for one reason or another, the breeder isn't even considering. If the judge is also a breeder, he/she may even be able to provide some insight into how to approach a breeding problem, or how to recombine things for further progress. At the very least, the judge's interest will be appreciated, and his/her comments will provide the very necessary "audience reaction". I have previously admonished the hybridizer to get his/her best things into the hands of growers whose gardens are visited regularly by judges; however, I now admonish the judges that they cannot possibly have the insight into a hybridizer's work, seeing one or two plants "guested" with a grower, that they will get by standing in the hybridizer's seedling patch and getting an overview of what is going on there!

In sum, regional judges are the people responsible for rooting out and promoting the best seedlings that the region has to offer. Certainly, it should not be a given that every decent seedling in the region gets its HC, but it should be a given that every decent seedling in the region is seen by a sufficient number of judges to give it a chance.

## Awards Committee, Help Us All!:

There are a lot more people hybridizing in 1990 than there were in the 1960's, and a lot more varieties on the market. It is thus more difficult for the judges to see and evaluate a large percentage of them within a few short years. In Region One, judges do the best they can by way of growing a large number of new varieties. Both the region and the sub-sections buy new introductions for their sales and auctions, so as to distribute newer varieties to the memberships. Even so, things keep coming to the favorable attention of the judges when they have already been dropped from the HM list. This is hurting the development of the iris as a garden plant, and I submit we need to deal with the situation. It will always be *possible* that a fine iris gets overlooked, but it should not be *probable*.

The overlooked iris is usually the product of a less well-known breeder, of course. Even if that breeder does everything in his/her power to promote the plant, and even if his/her region's judges are working diligently to help with the promotion, he/she is at a disadvantage in the distribution department, compared with the large, well-known breeder/growers. That isn't a complaint, it's just a fact. Except for convention viewings (which should not, in any case, be our sole criterion), most of our experience is with irises grown in gardens within the region. These irises are purchased and brought into the region by individuals, the region and the sub-groups, all of whom tend to buy from reputable established commercials, not out of lack of interest in the products of smaller breeders, but as a matter of trust, particularly when the purchases are sight-unseen. The best introductions of less well-known breeders drift in more slowly as word-of-mouth creates interest, and all too often, too late to become established and gain favor with the judges before they are dropped from the HM list.

There's another, less obvious problem. The best irises should perform well in a variety of climates, and many of them do. However, there is a period of adjustment, especially when the plants are moved from coast to coast. In California, bearded iris rhizomes grow huge and lush. In New England, they grow spare and dense. When a "Californian" is moved into New England, several things can happen. It may winter-kill the first winter, although this is less likely if it is planted early and protected. If it survives, it will generally perform well the first season, its bloomstalk rhizome still full of the energy from its home garden. Sometimes it will sulk the second year, as it tries to adjust its growth habits to our rather unkind climate and short growing season. The third year, it will either get happy and begin to perform really well, or it will decide it hates New England and simply peter out. The point is, some plants from the West coast or other radically different climates can't really be evaluated until they have been here for three seasons, and unless they were brought in no more than one year after their introduction, their chances at a timely HM vote are pretty slim. I would venture to guess that there is a similar problem with New England irises transplanted to California or the South.

For all of the above reasons, the selection process has become really difficult. The judges simply can't digest all of the plant material available in the time presently alloted. This year, I saw at least four named and introduced varieties for the first time which I considered really outstanding, and which had passed from the HM eligibility list within the last couple of years. Technically, these varieties are still eligible, but as a practical matter, that's a "never happen" situation. It would take major-league collusion to produce the necessary write-in, and collusion is not what the awards system is supposed to be about.

So what to do? As a judge, I would ask the Committee to take the pressure off the judges by lengthening the tenure of the new variety on the HM list by at least one and preferably two years; or alternatively, by giving the plants one additional year "gratis" and a second year if they have received a predeter-

mined fraction of the required votes in their last year on the list. I fully realize that this would lengthen the ballot, increase the workload for the Awards Chairman, and perhaps increase the postage necessary to mail the ballot. However, I don't think we can afford to give these relatively minor clerical and monetary considerations priority over the advantages to be gained in additional distribution and evaluation. Judges would have a better shot at observing a variety for several seasons and being sure of its qualities. New varieties would have a better shot at being fully evaluated before they are forgotten. And finally, the public would have a better shot at getting AIS recommendations that mean something as they buy plants for their home gardens.

This last is perhaps the crux of the whole issue! AIS does not, after all, exist in a vacuum. "Just gardeners" do pay attention to our awards in making their selections, and the true success or failure of our awards system hangs on the success or failure of our award-winning irises as garden plants. We can afford neither to promote irises which are not worthy, nor to overlook irises which are. Quite literally, we judges are the selectors for the plant material which the public will consume, and we want very much to select what is really the best and eliminate what is really inferior. I submit that this can't be done within the currently applicable time parameters, and I beg the Committee to give us a break!

# 1991 Membership Contest

Lucy Fry (Kansas)

The 1991 Membership Contest includes a number of important changes designed to encourage greater participation. We recognize that it is important to the future of the AIS to attract more Youth to become active in the Society. Therefore, points for obtaining new youth members will be awarded to *any* contestant whether they be youth, adult or affiliate.

A new category has been added to recognize the effort required to secure Life Memberships and to emphasize the need for ongoing membership in the Society.

Three separate and distinct awards will be presented at the 1992 Convention, one to the youth, one to the adult and one to the affiliate with the most total points. Certificates of achievement will be awarded to the individual youth, adult and affiliate in each Region who obtains the largest number of points. A minimum of 30 points is necessary to qualify for any award. Names of the award and certificate winners will be published in the April 1992 Bulletin.

Each affiliate must decide whether its members will participate as individuals or as a group.

#### Point Scale

- 10 points for each new single annual membership
- 10 points for each new youth member added to an existing family membership

- 15 points for each new family annual membership
- 20 points for each new single triennial
- 25 points for each new family triennial
- 25 points for each new youth member registered as a solitary member

The following points will be given for conversion from annual to triennial membership, providing the membership has been in effect for a minimum of one year.

- 10 points for converting from single triennial to family triennial
- 15 points for converting from single annual to single triennial
- 25 points for converting from family annual to family triennial

New to the 1991 contest is the Life Membership category. Points will be awarded as follows.

100 points for each single life membership

150 points for each family life membership

#### Rules

- 1. Membership application and payment of dues are made, directly to the AIS. Membership Secretary and may be submitted by the recruiter or by the new member.
- 2. The RVP or Membership Chairman of the contestant's Region and the AIS Contest Chairman: Lucy Fry, 2640 N. Bluff, Wichita, KS, 67220 should be notified by the recruiter within 30 days.
- 3. Each new membership should be reported on separate 3x5 cards. The following information is needed: the name, complete address and Region number of the new member; the type of membership—single, family or youth; the term of the membership—annual, triennial or life; the name, address and Region of the recruiter. Only those memberships reported correctly will be awarded points.
- 4. Renewal of memberships following a lapse of two years will count as new members.
- 5. New memberships received by the Membership Contest Chairman postmarked after December 10, 1991 can not be counted for the 1991 contest but will be automatically credited to the recruiter for the 1992 contest.

	American Iris Soc	ciety Conventions	
1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	Washington, DC Atlanta, GA Fort Worth, TX Portland, OR Hershey, PA Sacramento, CA	May 18-22 April 28-May 2 April 20-25 May 21-25	

# Contemporary Views—1990

Perry Dyer (Oklahoma)

Here in Oklahoma, we experienced a late freeze in mid-March that really had a negative impact on the season. I initially didn't think much of it, because (as usual) the SDBs came through virtually unscathed. We were about half-way through the TB season before it dawned on me that I was having only about 50% bloom in the TBs in the Blanchard garden.

We saw plenty of excellent medians and some very well grown early TBs at the Omaha convention. I only wish I could have returned 10 days later. It was a very enjoyable, well-planned event, and I've never seen more perfectly grown irises. This was the first convention ever that I have attended where every single garden was worthy. The culture throughout was superb. The plants weren't "pushed" and overgrown, and the layouts of the gardens were most thoughtful.

Anyhow, there will be a bit more emphasis on medians in this year's review. Unbelievable things are happening in the median world.

Contemporary Views' award winners are reviewed first, then TBs by general color group, then medians by class, then finally Louisianas.

Throughout the review, the term "New Iris" is defined as those introduced within the last 3 years inclusive (i.e., this year, irises introduced in 1988, 1989, and 1990).

1. The Contemporary Award, given to the best new iris seen: HONKY TONK BLUES (Schreiner '88) is a magnificent hybridizing achievement from a family who has, in the past, specialized in more "traditional" releases in the blue color range. It took Oklahoma by storm, being voted the most popular iris on the Sooner State Iris Society bus tour. A rich deeper blue self, but washed overall in white. There is no other iris like it (isn't that what we're searching for!?), yet its form, plants habits, branching, and bud count make it outstanding in the garden or on the show bench. Beautiful, disease-resistant bluegreen foliage. The buds will fool you. Check it out next spring and see what I mean. "Sass with class" here rather than a novelty or kook.

Runnersup: GOOD SHOW (Hager '88) is far and above the leader in oranges now. Rich, brilliant, glowing pure orange that is totally sunfast and without the yellow in the falls that can be distracting. Simply huge, lightly ruffled flowers are architecturally sound, with good substance. Thick, husky show stalks are sometimes asked to hold up three open at once and are successful. Put all this bravado on gigantic, clean plants (very resistant to leaf spot) and you have a great iris. RASPBERRY FUDGE (Keppel '89) was justifiably most popular in Omaha, garnering a runnerup slot for the Cook Cup. Dazzling colors of raspberry, chocolate, and a little henna heavily sanding and dotting a cream background. A sassy, saucy look. What impresses me most is the branching and bud count, consistency in color intensity and plicata patterning, and the plant habits (it grows and it doesn't rot!). SHOOTING SPARKS (Black '89) is the first IB child to be released from

the CHUBBY CHEEKS bloodline. It is a vision of health, with rampant vigor. When it starts blooming—and keeps blooming—you'll swear there'll be nothing left. Not to worry, for there is always plenty of increase for next year's bloom marathon. At the top of the class (26 ") with wide candelabra branching comparable to the finest of the TB show winners (I won runnerup with it at our early show this spring). It sports three well-spaced branches, with 5 to 7 buds per stalk. The stalks are surprisingly thin and graceful, yet support multiple blossoms open, even in Okie winds. A clean, pure white plicata, neatly banded in a distinct pattern of deep blue to violet. A graceful iris, with the emphasis on *consistency*.

2.The L'Elegante Award is given to the new iris with the most beautiful individual flower seen this year. This does not necessarily address the overall plant habits, but all aspects must be acceptable to merit the variety receiving this award: CRYSTAL DREAMS (Shockey '89), from a relatively new hybridizer who has already made his mark with his arilbred breeding. He has just as good a critical eye and sense of artistry and good taste in his TB selecting! Howard's picture of it in the January 1989 *Bulletin* is most accurate, but no camera can capture the mystique and the full gamut of color combinations and shadings this iris exudes. The form was fuller and more expanded here, retaining outstanding shape and just enough ruffling and lace to see the flower in motion. It is a montage of pink, lavender, lilac, and silver, subtly edged with a CHARTREUSE RUFFLES band. The flower is topped off with a beard of changeable colors of purple, blue, to sienna. This is the first proof of my prediction a few years ago about the CHARTREUSE RUFFLES bloodline. The possibilities with CRYSTAL DREAMS are unlimited.

Runnersup (are you ready for this—take your pick!): HALO IN YELLOW (Niswonger '89; 2nd Runnerup: HALO IN ORANGE (Niswonger '89); 3rd Runnersup: HALO IN PINK (Niswonger '89). That was one heckuva row in Blanchard, because this trio was just a few clumps down the row from CRYSTAL DREAMS. These three offerings were my pleasant surprise of the year. To rank one above the others is difficult, for all three are simply gorgeous and are unique in their own respect. HALO IN YELLOW is remindful in style of the great classic, DEBBY RAIRDON, but with a deeper yellow saturation, cleaner, purer white in the falls, and a thicker band (but not as thick as, say, JOYCE TERRY). Waxy substance that endures adverse weather conditions admirably. Ah, CHARTREUSE RUFFLES blood again, combined with the likes of the Mohrs' BRIDE'S HALO offspring, EXUBERANT. HALO IN ORANGE is not a sib to HALO IN YELLOW, but also does have EXUBERANT in its parentage, combined this time with another of Nate Rudolph's irises (CRYS-TAL DAWN). A compact description would be a much improved EXUBER-ANT, with a slightly richer, prettier shade of orange. HALO IN PINK is a parent of HALO IN ORANGE, but I'm grateful that Dave chose to release it also. Remindful of a pinker version of the older TREVI FOUNTAIN, its form isn't as "flared" as the other two "halos", but the falls retain a nice shape. Perhaps the frilliest of the lot, and for me the most fertile. I enthusiastically recommend all three.

3. The 9-1-1 Award is given to the new iris that is the most significant hybridizing achievement to color break. I had to fudge on the introduction data criteria a bit this year to award this one, but I had never seen it before, so it is "new" to me and most of you: TIDE MARK (Hummel '86), a lavender-blue on white plicata with what is approaching a red beard. Actually, they're coral. This wide, clean breakthrough comes from a different approach to plicatas (Moldovan versus the Gibson/Keppel lines). Most impressive is the branching, bud count, and placement—supported by a clean, healthy, vigorous, healthy plant. This was barely in bloom in Omaha. Had the convention been a week later, we would have seen expansive clumps of this in full bloom. Elegant rather than bold. I predict the combination of this with other redbearded blue plic attempts will take the iris world by storm. Congratulations to this family of hybridizers relatively new to the scene!

Runnersup: HELGA'S HAT (Nichols '90), a great new Space Age median, with branching, buds, form, and plant habits worthy to compete with the outstanding IB class. A succinct description would be: Take Bill Jones' classically formed white IB, AVANELLE, and add consistent, tasteful white horns protruding from the yellow beards. A clever name to reprise the world's first Space Age median, HAGAR'S HELMET. SPRING SATIN (Black '89) is a halo attempt from a different hybridizing approach, and I predict we will see all kinds of halo variations because of it. A soft, gentle palette of colors: the standards are a creamy BRIDE'S HALO pattern with a distinct lemon to light yellow halo; the falls a light orchid-lavender blend, gracefully lightening in the heart, but then haloed in tan (distinctively different color than the standards' halo). HUBBUB (Ensminger '89) is a first in the medians, as HAGAR'S HELMET was several years ago. This is the first broken pattern "plicata" that PURPLE STREAKER and other Ensminger releases have made so popular. Yes, no two flowers are alike, and the patterning of purple on white is most fascinating. Does not push the limits of the IB class.

4. The Sun Belt Award is given to the best proven variety, i.e., one that has been on the market long enough to thoroughly be tested (at least 4 years). The winner this year is EXTRAVAGANT (Hamblen '83), perhaps the ultimate in "class" from one of the most tasteful hybridizers this world has known. Some hybridizers just have a sixth sense for selecting seedlings for introduction, and Melba Hamblen is the master at it! I describe EXTRAVAGANT as "burnished amethyst", but not as "smoky" as some other things on the market, which are themselves very attractive also. The sienna beards have just the right intensity to cap this piece of artwork. Heavily laced and moderately ruffled flowers are large but have no trouble opening. Typical Hamblen show stalk branch placement, sometimes with double sockets in the branching and sometimes not. A good judge will look at the overall length of time the iris blooms, and EXTRAVAGANT passes the test. I can already tell you, after several years of critiquing this iris, it will be the Cream of the Crop Award winner in 1991. . . . All in all, and with dozens of candidates to choose from, this has been Melba's finest achievement.

Runnersup: HELLCAT (Aitken '83) is my perennial choice for best IB on the market, it seems. It still can't be beat. The color saturation of this neglecta is intense and richly applied with high gloss. The branching, bud count, tight, classical form—it's all there. And it is dependable, no matter how adverse the weather conditions. Double sockets extend its bloom in the garden. Perfectly spaced branching and sequencing make it a hot number on the bench, and ves, it has won Best of Show honors. I have had the privilege of enjoying and evaluating CHUBBY CHEEKS (Black '85) since its days as a seedling, and now to watch the impact it is having as a parent. Wide fat flowers, lightly and pleasingly ruffled, are adorned with changeable shadings of silver, blue, and light violet bands on a white ground plicata. Look closely and you'll see a plicata halo in gold, producing a "double band". This is what gives the flower its carrying power in the garden and on the show bench. It presents itself well. WARRIOR KING (Schreiner '85) is still the finest of many good reds on the market today. A brilliant garnet red, absolutely sunfast, clean at the hafts, and superior in its shape. But what sets the standard here to judge all other reds by is its branching, bud count, and vigor. The prettiest blue-green, leaf spot resistant foliage in the whole garden.

5. The Dark Horse Award is given to the variety introduced within the past 10 years that I feel has been overlooked by AIS judges, and deserves/deserved higher awards: BAY RUFFLES (Warburton '85) is the epitome of what an SDB should be. Stalks are consistently 12" tall, with one well-placed branch and a total bud count of 3, each opening one at a time as they should. The foliage is clean, disease resistant, and not coarse. Excellent increase, floriferous, with a superb bloom/increase ratio. Does not overbloom. The flowers are broad, yet still retain the grace and charm of a dwarf, and have light waving and ruffling that enhance the perfect form. A shimmering, sparkling light to medium blue, somewhat deeper than the color of TIDE'S IN, but with the same translucence. That this offering from one of the world's finest, most famous hybridizers hasn't even received an Honorable Mention from AIS judges appalls me!

Runnersup: Ironically, the first slot goes to another SDB: JAZZAMATAZZ (Heidi Blyth '86) was hybridized by Barry's daughter while she was still in grade school! It has the same basic color pattern of INFLAMED, WOW, BE DAZZLED, etc. (i.e., bright yellow standards and bright red falls, banded in yellow), but it is broad, heavily ruffled, and with substance like I've never seen in this color pattern. Buds galore, vigorous, and floriferous. It is a brilliant, smashing color combination! I'm amazed that it isn't more popular and widely grown than it is. EVELYN'S ECHO (Evelyn Kegerise '85) blooms rather late in the season, and this is the only explanation I have for its oversight by AIS judges. A high-class, high-gloss deep violet to indigo blue with self beards—absolutely no other color present to blemish the effect. Show stalks supreme, often opening three at once. Another from Kegerise rounds out the list: SULTRY MISS (Evelyn Kegerise '86) is a unique soft bicolor with warm pink standards and rosy-violet falls, capped with coral-tangerine beards. The

entire flower is then overcast with a smoky cast more elegant than muddy. Look closely and you'll see a slightly deeper band ½" wide in the falls, inherited from its parent, NEFERTITI. As with all Kegerise creations, it has healthy, clean, vigorous plants and thick, strong, well-branched, double-budded stalks.

6. The Cream of the Crop Awards go to the five varieties on the Dykes Medal eligibility list that I consider the most worthy, in order of preference. My Dykes vote this year went to: TIDE'S IN (Schreiner '83), the beautiful diamond-dusted, shimmering light blue that has a different type of form than some of their other famous blue offerings.

Runnersup: Again CLARA GOULA (Arny '78), the SNOW FLURRY of Louisiana irises. An average increaser that is finicky for some people, apparently, but has always been a consistent performer in Blanchard. SOFT SPOKEN (Dyer '80 BB)—well, what can I say. . . . PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE (Schreiner '84) is one of those that has improved with time—a lustrous rich blue with a mink texture that is surprisingly rare in this color class. It is one of those, like BEVERLY SILLS, that will put up secondary stalks as the first wave of blooms are finishing, thus extending the bloom season. And EVERYTHING PLUS (Niswonger '84), a child of SPINNING WHEEL, with the most distinctive spoke pattern and better substance than many.

7. The Pick of the Litter Award is special, and goes to the most outstanding seedling viewed this year. The winner this year is #3-87 from *Mitch Jameson*, a new hybridizer from St. Joseph, Missouri. What a joy it was to walk into a garden for the first time and see the artistry being created by an enthusiastic hybridizer who has that all-too-rare *gift* of a critical eye and the *discipline* of true objectivity. #3-87, scheduled for 1992 introduction, and tentatively named DOO DAH, will be Mitch's very first release. This seedling is from (EDITH WOLFORD X SONG OF SPRING), and is a simply elegant light blue amoena like you've never seen before. Clean light blue standards with an intense flush of true blue in the midribs. The falls are a medium blue with smooth, wide hafts and a harmonious medium yellow beard. The falls are nearly horizontal and have moderate chiffon ruffling, with each ruffle just deep enough and placed just right to emphasize the quality form and further enhance the color gradations between the standards and falls. The flush in the standards is the key.

Runnersup: 8544D, from Paul Black, now scheduled for '91 release but not named yet, as of the time of this writing. This was the first Pick of the Litter winner in 1988, so this tells you just how much I think of Jameson 3-87! This is still my favorite of all of Paul's TBs, and I'm glad to see he will be introducing it. I'm still amazed at it, because it is not from the bloodlines that have produced other "toasted" colors so far (e.g., Ghio, Keppel, Hamblen). It is from ((BREATH OF MORN x GALEN) X SPELLMAKER), and is a toasted raspberry color (some say "mauve") but it has a creamy texture overlay that makes the color more gentle. Yet there is that oh-so-important diamond-dusting that provides such a mysterious color with carrying power to the eye in the garden. The self flowers are capped off with enchanting henna to coral beards. Classy

form, good substance, and most acceptable branch placement and bud count. Not sure how it will look in the catalog next year for, like CRYSTAL DREAMS, the true color is elusive to the camera's eye. Trust me, there's nothing like it on the market, and you will enjoy! Two seedlings were viewed in Omaha and placed on my "Watch For" list: Q30-1A by Joe Gatty and 83-401-1 by Evelyn Kegerise. Q30-1A was the best seedling seen in Omaha, and it looked like Joe had dipped into George Shoop's pollen box. I'll be curious to find out the parentage on it. Bright pink standards are heavily flushed lavender to purple in the midribs. Falls are a bright, cheery coral to orange, topped off with dazzling deep coral beards. The color coordination is smashing but in no way gaudy or offensive. In one garden it had a strong stalk with four branches (plus rebranching) and double sockets up and down. Evelyn's 83-401-1 is remindful of her earlier release, STEADY PACE ('80), which in and of itself was a fine iris but was overlooked. This seedling is an updated version, with more refined flower form and improved vigor. It is a rich deep bronze-brown self with self to deep gold beards. Again, overall Kegerise quality, but in a color range where other bloodlines have failed in the areas of plant vigor, strength of stalks, and bud count. Modified candelabra branching has three branches, with double buds at each placement.

Pick of the Litter Updates: From the 1988 review, the runnerup 181-27P (Lilly Gartman was named ALLURING and introduced via Roris Gardens in 1989. Runnerup N49-2 (Joe Gatty) was named HOLLYWOOD BLONDE and was introduced in 1989 also. From the 1989 review, the Pick of the Litter winner, ANN BLOCHER, the great laced white from Clarence Blocher, is being introduced by Roger Nelson (Iris Country in Oregon) this year. As a guest in my garden this year, it was again outstanding. Runnerup 82-6, the luxurious, serrated lavender-pink Louisiana from Marvin Granger of Lake Charles, Louisiana, will be introduced in 1991 via Bobo Faggard in Beaumont, Texas. It looked good again this year at the SLI Convention show in Lafayette, Louisiana. The other runnerup, 85254AA from Paul Black, has been named SIGHS AND WHISPERS, and is considered by many of us to be Paul's premiere TB introduced this year.

#### TALL BEARDEDS BY COLOR GROUP

REDS TO MAROONS: WARRIOR KING (Schreiner '85), reviewed under the Sun Belt Award winners, still owns this color class. My only complaint is that it has had very limited fertility. But I have a few pods this year . . . A pleasant surprise for me was BURGUNDY BUBBLES (Maryott '87), a sensuous shade of rich burgundy-wine approaching maroon. The wide form and satin sheen are enhanced by a succession of tight, well placed ruffles. Vigorous, multi-budded, with excellent bloom sequencing that gave an extended season of bloom. It was good to see one of my favorites again, ROYAL PREMIERE (Maryott '85). This overlooked small tall is probably the only true maroon on the market, excepting its parent, the pseudo-BB, MAROON BELLS. Finally, after all these years, Schortman's GARNET RUFFLE8

(Schortman '81) grew well enough to bloom. For a change, *this* one was worth the frustration of the wait. More of a wine than BURGUNDY BUBBLES, but remindful in general shape of the flower (although BURGUNDY BUBBLES has better form) and intensity of ruffling. STERLING BLAZE (Innerst '88), first evaluated while a guest here for the '88 National, still shows potential. It has a different coloring than RED LION or the Schreiners/Stevens bloodlines. It is a garnet red with a "smoky" underlay that gives a unique coloration to the color tone. Classics: CLEARFIRE (Stevens '81); ROYAL TRUMPETER (Reynolds '71); SPECTACULAR BID (Denney '81).

APRICOTS TO ORANGES: The magnificent GOOD SHOW (Hager '88) is the leader of pure oranges and was reviewed earlier in the Contemporary Awards. VICTORIAN FRILLS (Black '88) is a lovely thing and among Paul's best releases. A clean, moderately laced apricot-peach self that has no difficulty in opening. Wide, classic form. Plant habits are beyond reproach, and the branching and bud count show its Kegerise heritage. FRINGE BENEFITS (Hager '88) is a great companion for GOOD SHOW, released the same year. But they are so different that they shouldn't be compared against each other. Remindful of ORANGE STAR, it is notably improved in height, bud count, vigor, and plant consistency. A burnished rich orange with even deeper burnt orange to sienna beards. Heaviest lace yet in this color, with tight, compact flowers with marvelous substance. ORANGE CELEBRITY (Niswonger '84) made quite a hit in the Blanchard garden, and it had strong stalks that held up well in spite of its relatively high branching. A smooth, rich, pure orange with deeper beards and substance like leather. Rampant, strong plant habits. MONTEVIDEO (Ghio '87) is slightly lighter, but still has good color saturation. Beautiful branching on somewhat slender but sufficiently strong stalks. Plant habits are better than its predecessors from this blood line. Classics: FAN CLUB (Dalton '80); FIDDLESTICKS (Spahn '81); ORANGE STAR (Hamblen '81).

PINKS: What a class! My favorite is still SOPHISTICATION (Hamblen '84), a smaller flowered satin pink with elegant soft blue beards. Over the years, I have come to respect my own WARM EMBRACE ('80) more and more. Richest pink approaching hot pink with deep coral beards. It can be faulted for inconsistent branching and bud count, but I have seen it with Queen quality stalks (at least the way Dean and Georgia Brand grow it). My own hot stalk of it bloomed 2 days too soon for the show this year (of course!). A surprise for me this year was AMOUR (Corlew '85), a diamond-dusted, refined soft pink with near-white falls softly banded in the standards' color. Different from the other fine Corlew pinks. A sure candidate for use with those great Niswonger bands. FEMME FATALE (Gatty '88) is currently my favorite of a long line of high-quality, constantly improving pinks. A very clean medium pink with lace and superb, broad form. BLUE CHIP PINK (Niswonger '90) was seen in Omaha, and shows good potential for an advancement in the elusive blue-bearded pink line. A soft, elegant affair with decent form and finish. Also seen in Omaha, MEMOIRS (Ghio '88) was a reasonably strong plant.

MEMOIRS is an unusual smoky pink (I believe the expression is "toasted") that has undertones that are close to apricot, which creates a totally different color effect. ROMANTIC MOOD (Ghio '88) is a full blown clean medium pink/ cream blending, slightly lighter and an improvement over the fine DESIGNER GOWN (Ghio '85). It shows great promise, and is one of Joe's prettiest in this color, but so far is suspect in the plant habits. It seems to be very tender. In my own garden, it was one of only about a half-dozen plants that actually died as a result of the late freeze. At the Spence garden, the individual flower was glorious, but blooming on a stunted stalk that had been bitten by the same freeze. Nonetheless, enough potential and sheer beauty to merit my giving it another chance—I'm growing it again this year. Classics: CHERUB CHOIR (Corlew '68); PINK DIVINITY (Tams '67); STORYBOOK (Corlew '80); WINGS OF DREAMS (Woodside '75).

LAVENDERS TO VIOLETS: An amazingly weak class, with limited real advancement in recent years. EXTRAVAGANT (Hamblen '83) is the shining star, and was reviewed as the Sun Belt Award Winner. Also nice is MELBA'S GRADUATION ('85), a deeper, more smoky version of EXTRAVAGANT, with the color saturation gradually lightening in the heart of the falls (well named!). The same wide, finished form of EXTRAVAGANT and others from this line of breeding. Two lilacs were added to the garden again. Their bloom this spring brought back many fond memories. LILAC FLARE (Rudolph '69) is pure class and the ultimate from the Orville Fav RIPPLING WATERS line, Small, tight, compact lilac with soft coral beards and horizontal talls. Shorter stalks in harmony with its smaller flower size. Actually, it'd make a better BB than many on the market today. MELODY RIPPLES (Julander '80) is a wonderful medium lilac-lavender with self to white beards. Fortunately, this heavily ruffled, relative unknown from Utah didn't overbloom as it had done when I grew it before. Classics: ENTOURAGE (Ghio '77); LILAC THRILL (Niswonger '79); MULBER-RY WINE (Moldovan '66).

DEEP VIOLETS TO BLACKS: This is where the action is. So many fine candidates that they're now bumping each other off in the awards. Dark Horse runnerup, EVELYN'S ECHO (Ev. Kegerise '85) leads this year, and has already been reviewed. GYRO (Aitken '89) is a sib to ORBITER ('85), and both are very worthy and distinctive enough to merit release. ORBITER is well known for its high bud count and outstanding branching, but also has a classical, wide form with moderate, perfectly placed ruffling in deep violet. GYRO is simply one step beyond, and Terry was wise in delaying its release until ORBITER was well established in the eyes of the iris growers. A great hybridizer is also a smart hybridizer. It has nothing to do with hovering over your things at a national convention and politicking. It has nothing to do with winning awards, although that recognition is welcomed and humbling for many of us. The bottom line is a good sense of marketing, knowing how the iris wheels turn, and the distribution of quality plants to help assure quality performance in those first critical years. The more an iris is seen and respected, the more people will want it, add it to their gardens, and enjoy it. This all goes hand-in-

hand with that all-important self-critical eve I keep harping about. Terry Aitken is one of those hybridizers who possesses this quality, and I think (I hope!) I do too. We are in the minority still today, but I truly believe things are improving. and "WE SHALL OVERCOME"! Off my soapbox (it's my review!), and on with the category. . . . Last year's Sun Belt Award winner, HOUDINI (Maryott '85) continues to impress—a rich, gratefully early-blooming bombshell in verynear-black with a glossy sheen that shoots the color clear across the garden. Beautiful, disease-resistant plant habits, and branching that cannot be beat. Although a fine show iris (three open at once), its strongest asset is the sequencing of its buds and the arrival of later secondary stalks within established clumps (like BEVERLY SILLS), assuring a long season of bloom well past midseason peak. HOLY NIGHT (K. Mohr '83) is a giant, with telephone pole stalks to support humangous but well-shaped flowers in even deeper violet. The size and style is remindful of the great TITAN'S GLORY, but with even larger flowers, deeper color saturation, and a more "finished" ensemble in its form. Tight construction for such huge flowers, displayed on stalks right at 4 feet tall. EVENING GOWN (Ghio '87) is one of Ghio's best, and we're very grateful to Mr. Keppel for rescuing it. A highly refined violet black with rich deepest blue beards. Absolutely smooth at the hafts, and a moderate sized flower presented on perfect modified candelabra branching. Good backup bud sequencing, as Houdini. ELECTRIC AVENUE (R. Nelson '89) still hasn't been seen enough to merit full endorsement, but the limited evaluation is most favorable, coming from another one of "those picky hybridizers". A more full deep blue rather than the sultry black of most of the others listed in this category this year. Watch for it. One of the surprises this year in Omaha was MY SHADOW (Magee '90). It was much darker than the Bulletin ad, and certainly a lot taller. Very lightly ruffled purple with contrasting bronze beards and hafts that, although not as smooth as some others in this color group, was a standout in Omaha. Classics: GOOD KNIGHT (Ghio '79); NIGHT RAIDER (Burrell '77); SILENT MAJESTY (Hamblen '77).

BLUES: So many fine offerings to choose from, and many have already been reviewed in the Awards Section: The great HONKY TONK BLUES (Schreiner '88) as the Contemporary Award winner; TIDE'S IN (Schreiner '83), my Cream of the Crop choice; and PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE (Schreiner '84), which I consider a fine runnerup any day. But also from Schreiner: SEA OF JOY ('85), a later blooming, round ball as close to turquoise (or aquamarine) as any I've seen. Rather than the traditional, shiny, diamond-dusted look of TIDE'S IN, it instead has a leathery look and feel that causes its color pigmentation to transmit itself differently. This is part of the reason for unique coloring in a class of surely a thousand other offerings. Most pleasurable. Amazing that, with the justified popularity of Barry Blyth's releases, TOUCH OF BRONZE ('83) has to be considered a Dark Horse. This light blue is contrasted with deepest bronze beards, sometimes approaching black. Might not sound attractive on paper, but wait until you see it—a smashing combo. This iris is a missing link in iris genetics, I believe, and will serve as the

cornerstone of a whole new avenue of breeding I will be pursuing this next decade. Barry has already gotten some things that are simply unexplainable. A pleasant surprise was YANKEE PRIDE (Maryott '89). A simple, clean sapphire blue in the tradition and color depth of the Schreiners' SAPPHIRE HILLS. Excellent branching and plant habits after only 1 year in Blanchard. I had favorable notes on this one, under number, in the Marvott reselects at the '86 San Jose National. The best of the red-bearded blue attempts remains SKYBLAZE (Keppel '87), a light to medium blue with deepest tangerine to red beards that carry their color saturation all the way to the base of the beards. Husky plants produce superbly branched stalks. Substance is markedly superior to others in this color combination. An old favorite was added to the garden again and gets reviewed: BUBBLING SPRINGS (O. Brown '71). This was the first introduction I ever bought (I was a sophomore in high school at the time). I bought it then for hybridizing, and although a rather reluctant parent, have acquired it again to resume a line that I side-tracked myself on years ago. Kinda finicky, sometimes beligerent, this is still one of the most beautiful irises ever created, and soft gentle blue (lilac undertones sometimes) with self to white beards. The heaviest lace ever seen in this color range. Other Classics: BABBLING BROOK (Keppel '66); VICTOR HERBERT (Benson '77); MIRRORED SKY (D. Palmer '79); ST. LOUIS BLUES (Schreiner '79).

WHITES: It's time for the return in popularity of the classically formed, heavily ruffled pure white, such as ANGEL CHOIR or FLIGHT OF ANGELS. I consider SILVERADO (Schreiner '87) a white, although technically it could be considered by some as palest blue or even lavender. A glacier white with absolute perfection in ruffling. It will show more of the icy undertones in cooler weather or cloudy days, but the substance and finish are never suspect. A faultless vision of health and beauty. It is the first iris I have ever point scored at 100 in the garden (no, I don't do that much point scoring—I've got better things to do with my time—but on occasion, when it's obvious that it's that close, I'll point score one, just for fun). Perhaps this makes it the perfect iris? Perhaps I'll read this review 20 years from now and chuckle at myself—but I doubt it. It is large flowered, has robust plants and thick husky stalks; yet it maintains a grace and eloquence that causes you to just stand there and revel. ANN BLOCHER (Blocher '90 via Roger Nelson) didn't have the wide, tight form I remembered from the Tulsa shows in previous years as a seedling, but the shape was not objectionable to me at all. The heavily laced, pure white florets have no difficulty opening. Improvement in substance is most notable. As with TOUCH OF BRONZE, this is to be the foundation of a new line of breeding I am now commensing. PURE-AS-THE (Innerst '89) also shows promise for being a worthy laced white addition, but characteristics such as branching, bud count, and hybrid vigor could not be justly evaluated on a first-year plant. Substance appeared to be acceptable. Watch for it. Another laced white, but from a warm (creamy) approach was KUNIKO (Gatty '89). Broadest, well constructed form with most charming, contrasting yellow beards. Perhaps like an improved WHITE LIGHTNING, but later blooming

and not nearly so susceptible to late freeze damage and rot. I predict KUNIKO, along with HOLLYWOOD BLONDE, will go down in the books as being among the best offerings ever from Joe Gatty. (By the way, put the accent of the first syllable in KUNIKO). CRYSTALYN (B. Dunn '86) is one I had missed until this year. A huge, pale blue with light ruffling and self, near-white beards. The effect is white. Might sound on paper like SILVERADO, but each is unique and worthy. Fat formal flowers held up on multi-branched stalks with backup buds at all positions. Undeniable vigor, BUBBLING LACE (Black '86) is a heavily laced cold white with perfect form and superb substance. Plant vigor, branching, and bud count have been variable for some of us. Too bad it doesn't perform everywhere like it does for Perry Parrish—he can really grow that iris! The heaviest lace in the entire lot, yet it never has difficulty in opening, even after a cool night—they're usually rare in Oklahoma during bloom season, but not this year! MICHELE TAYLOR (Schreiner '84) is the type of iris that makes being a hybridizer fun. Who would think that this laced ice-cold white is actually from pink plicata breeding. Look real close at it next spring, especially early in the morning on a fresh bloom, and you'll see tell-tale hints of pink lines in the shoulders right around the beards. This one usually lacks the stamina and bud count of some of the others reviewed, but is still a very lovely affair and worthy of garden space and time. Last but not least, PRAY FOR PEACE (Plough '82). This blocky, moderately ruffled pure white reminds me of JOYCE TERRY, in that I can't believe it could have possibly been overlooked from a hybridizer who had a long string of winners. Not a warm white, not an icy white; rather, a traditional pure white which is unexplainably rare in today's market. Classics: FLIGHT OF ANGELS (Terrell '68); HEAVENLY ANGELS (Gatty '79); WINTER OLYMPICS (O. Brown '63).

CREAMS TO YELLOWS: Those that approach the reverse amoena pattern and the halo effect are also included in this category this year: HALO IN YELLOW (Niswonger '89) was reviewed in the Awards Section. I'm still amazed at its leathery substance. A promising star is BERTWISTLE (Innerst '90), seen in Omaha still under number. It is a tall, imposing improvement over EASTERTIME, with texture in the falls that doesn't break down and crepe before its time, as EASTERTIME unfortunately did. BERTWISTLE did inherit from EASTERTIME some of the prettiest, healthiest, blue-green foliage in the garden. A clear mid-yellow with a large area of white precisely displayed in the center of the falls, then evenly banded in the standards' color. CHURCH-ILL DOWNS (Mohr '88) continues to impress me. A clean, bright yellow with a large area of white in the center 3/3 of the falls, all adorned with well placed, moderately heavy ruffling and lace. Full, well structured flowers. Average branching and bud count, but is most effective in the garden. It puts up auxillary stalks on established clumps as the season progresses. If you attended Omaha, I am convinced that what you saw there was an imposter, and it was incorrect in at least three gardens. What we saw there was a lighter yellow self with much better, different type of branching, but not nearly as good form. What we bloomed in Oklahoma looked more like what Pacific

Coast Hybridizers advertised in color in their catalog. SUNKIST FRILLS (Dorothy Palmer '87) is similar in color pattern to CHURCHILL DOWNS, except even richer, and with a different yet pleasing form. Tight lace adorns the carved wax substance. Very late blooming (among the last to open), so many have missed it. Very unfortunate, because it was one of my departed friend's most beautiful creations. Good show quality branching, often opening three at once. But for me, even on an established planting, it was regrettably single-socketed, with a maximum of 6 buds, giving a short season of bloom. . . . its only major defect. Again, in a similar reverse amoena type color combination, but much softer, is BUTTER CRISP (Aitken '86), a quiet shade of light butter yellow with white falls with a band of the principal color. An elegant affair, at the smaller end of the tall bearded scale (height and flower size), with looping, deep chiffon ruffling. I had been hesitant to review this in the past. because I have seen it completely bloom out before. This defect was not evident this year, and it was seen in more than one setting in different parts of the country. Beautiful proportion, and from a whole new approach to hybridizing this color pattern (PINK ANGEL X BROWN LASSO)—great breeding potential. A trio of pure golds vie for top honors in this color range. Impressive is that each is from different bloodlines, is completely sunfast, and exhibits fine branching, bud count, and good plant habits: GOLD COUNTRY (Ghio '87) has fat, wide flowers in a color approaching saffron. It is the best branched, with strong show stalks. BOLD GOLD (Gatty '87) is perhaps the truest gold on the market today, with notably better branching and bud count than its great parent, Schreiners' GOLD GALORE, Deeper, thick, fuzzy beards are remindful of the work of Opal Brown. It has been shorter than the registered 35", but not stunted or aborted. FISSION (Black '89) has the heaviest ruffling of the three, with variable branching that can be on the par of the other two. From FLAMING VICTORY, it has potential for vellows with true red beards. I don't usually review my own things, but will mention AZTEC SUN (Dyer '82). I consider it my best tall bearded introduction to date, and feel it is one of the cleanest, smoothest true deep yellow selfs on the market. It too should be useful in red-bearded yellow breeding. A sleeper for me has been FIRST IMPRESSION (Gatty '85), an early-blooming ivory-cream that has substance like wax. Show stalks supreme, and doesn't seem susceptible to late freezes as so many early-blooming, tender varieties are here. It is sad that many of Nate Rudolph's last introductions (that he selected) didn't receive the distribution and acclaim that those earlier releases such as PINK TAFFETA and LEMON MIST garnered. YELLOW FLOUNCE ('84) is a broad, full-blown lemon-yellow reverse amoena with tight lace. The tone is different from others—not dirty or smoky, yet has undertonings that give a totally different visual impact. Minimally acceptable bud count (6 to 7), but displayed on well spaced, well placed branching. Classics: DREAM AFFAIR (Gatty '78); EAST-ERTIME (Schreiner '80); GOLD GALORE (Schreiner '78).

PLICATAS Some of the most exciting work is being done here—with all kinds of crazy color combinations and types of patterning. Contrasting,

never-seen-before-on-plicatas beards just further whet the appetite. But in many of the bloodlines, significant defects such as tender growth, susceptibility to soft rot, and erratic growth habits must be acknowledged by the serious plicata hybridizer, or this creative work will be all for naught. Fortunately. I am beginning to see evidence that some hybridizers are undertaking this mammoth task of correcting the problems. The first three listed are my proof: Keppel's blue plic line seems to be the healthiest of the west coast lines, and SNOWBROOK ('87) is his best offering. It is certainly his most beautiful. Pure icy white standards top falls that are only finely edged with the purest blue seen to date in plicatas, with a deeper, heavier concentration of blue in the shoulders. Incredible branching and bud count, as Keith has become famous for. An absolute vision of health, with strong, full-fanned plants loaded with increase. Contemporary Award runnerup RASPBERRY FUDGE (Keppel '89) is thus far the healthiest and strongest from the Gibson bloodlines. And the 9-1-1 Award winner, TIDE MARK (Hummel '87) gives the most promise, for, keep in mind that it is from a totally different approach to plicatas that originated in a cold weather climate (from Moldovan's recessive plicata, GUARDIAN GATE). This one, combined with west coast bloodlines, will produce the elusive red-bearded blue plicata, I predict. JITTERBUG (Keppel '88) is a sizzling bright gold, with the falls precisely sanded, stitched, and peppered deep cinnamon brown. Basically an improved, taller, brighter version of this year's AM winner, WILD JASMINE, but the marking is more distinctive. For me, JITTERBUG has had exceptional growth habits. Another razzle-dazzle plicata is HOT STREAK (Ghio '88), a tall, imposing child of GIGOLO, with pure deep gold standards atop white and gold blended falls that are boldly, irregularly patterned in red. Branching and bud count are good, but growth habits need to be further tested here in the Midwest. Jim Gibson's most overlooked later plicata release is MOUNTAIN MELODY ('84), a unique blending of softer colors of mulberry stitching and sanding on an apricot to buff base, with more intensity of patterning in the falls. Very vigorous, but with inconsistent health. Here, in a wet, cooler-than-normal growing period, every single plant in one area rotted. Yet, another planting was absolutely rot-free. I am finally "sold" on MOMENTUM (Dunn '86), the best and brightest of many nice SPINNING WHEEL derivatives. One of the tallest in the garden, with stalks that amazingly withstand our Okie winds. Quite a show iris, and some of the prettiest, most vigorous foliage in tall beardeds. Classics: FLAMENCO (Keppel '77); GRAPHIC ARTS (Hager '78); PINK CON-FETTI (Gibson '76); SPINNING WHEEL (Nearpass '76).

VARIEGATAS, NEGLECTAS, AND AMOENAS (kinda lumped all together this year!): CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE (Niswonger '87) is technically a pink (or apricot-peach) amoena, but the standards are a different champagne, and then the falls a soft blending of buff, apricot, and peach. The entire flower is then underlayed with grey-lavender tones (never dirty) that give a hauntingly beautiful effect. Nothing like it; it grows on you. And it is a quality iris. For you reblooming enthusiasts, this one is a *must*. Pink amoenas have reached a

new plateau with the release of GIRL NEXT DOOR (Black '90). Standards are truly white, but veined in the midribs with a pretty shade of pink. The falls are the brightest, cleanest depth of pink I have seen. It is tall, and although the stalks are typically thin, they hold up the moderately sized flowers consistently. A refreshing flower. SPICED CIDER (Sexton-Black '89) is technically a variegata, but the falls are a deep burnished gold, with broken pigmentation like Neva's earlier offering, THANKSGIVING, that suggests to me a lineage of plicatas in its background. Broad, chubby flowers with one of the best names ever for an iris! Does well in cold weather climates, including Colorado. WAKEUP CALL (Black '90) is barely a yellow amoena, with creamy yellow standards only a tone paler than the falls. Shorter of stature (only 30"), but with perfect Kegerise branching on thick, strong stalks. Outstanding plant habits. Unpretentious, gentle flowers that grow on you. Barry Blyth is doing some of the most innovative work in these color combinations in this category of this review. IN TOWN ('88) is a highly improved neglecta from its ancestor, CABA-RET ROYALE. Crisp medium blue-violet standards, heavily saturated with deeper violet in the midribs. Plush velvet falls in deepest purple, but then edged in a silvery band (thicker than a halo). Tack on a bushy red beard— Smashing! Excellent branching and sound, vigorous plant habits. Very deservedly was a contender for the Out-of-Region Cup in Omaha. A fine show iris, too . . . Miss Kitty won Best Two-Toned Variety with it at the Sooner State show this year. CRIMSON SNOW ('87) is a notable advancement towards the elusive red amoena. Broad, blocky flowers have white standards (flushed orchid) and ruby-rose falls. As with IN TOWN, it is quite smooth-hafted and exhibits a halo in the falls. Unfortunately, CRIMSON SNOW's plant habits are highly suspect, but worth the effort, especially if hybridizing. Classics: BLAZ-ING SADDLES (Dyer '78); DUTCH GIRL (Mohr '81); MAGIC MAN (Blyth '79); NAVAJO BLANKET (Schreiner '78).

BICOLORS (again, a wide variation reviewed under this heading): EDITH WOLFORD (Hager '86) remains the queen. A heavily ruffled, improved LILAC CHAMPAGNE, with soft yellow standards over elegant blue-lavender falls. In this cool bloom season, the standards had a chartreuse tint to them, and the falls were very closely approaching blue. Leave it to Ben Hager to take a potentially gaudy color combination and turn it into a work of art! PASS THE WINE (Blyth '85) could conceivably be placed in the other category with IN TOWN and CRIMSON SNOW. It is from the same general line of breeding, but comes off as a deep wine bitone, also with a halo in the falls, and then capped with a brilliant red beard. Vigorous, and vivid in the garden. ENCHANTING (Hamblen '87) is another one of those late bloomers (literally), and this alone has adversely affected its recognition. Nothing like it on the market! Clean light to medium pink standards. Changeable taffeta falls masterfully blended in varying degrees of plum, rose, and magenta. The deep sienna to henna beards actually appear black against this color combination. Outstanding Hamblen branching. Hopefully the word will get out about this one. Another shamefully overlooked variety is SULTRY MISS (Kegerise '86), already reviewed as a runnerup in the Dark Horse Award section. Similar, but lighter, smaller of stature, and without the smoky overlay, is TRUE BLISS (Hamblen '87), a true improvement over the famous TOUCHE. As with ENCHANTING, TRUE BLISS is one of the last to grace your bloom season. Worth the wait! Classics: AMIGO'S GUITAR (Pough '64); DUALTONE (O. Brown '77); LATIN LADY (Shoop '78).

POTPOURRI: The great CRYSTAL GLITTERS (Schreiner '85) is Miss Kitty's favorite iris (she has good taste). This soft blend of pastels in apricot, peach. cream, pink, and gold is outstanding on the show bench. Yet its intense diamond dusting and chiseled ruffling give it carrying power in the garden. Another muted beauty that was a pleasant surprise was EASTER LACE (Byers '88). Although Monty has made sensational advancements in Space Age breeding, this is his best release to date. A simply elegant medley of orchids, pinks, lavenders, and tans, then all highlighted with gold. Heavy, heavy lace does not prohibit the compact, moderately sized flowers from opening properly. A child of BEVERLY SILLS, with all of its mother's attributes coming through. As with the aforementioned YELLOW FLOUNCE, another late Rudolph release that has regrettably been overlooked is Nate's RUFFLED SURPRISE ('81). An enchanting, sultry blend, with smoky plum standards over falls that are white, diffused with smoke, then rimmed with chartreuse. Smoky blue beards add a veil of mystery to the flower. Incredible breeding potential. Last year's Dark Horse Award winner, PLANNED TREASURE (Burger '85) is still a favorite, and is the foundation of nearly a guarter of my hybridizing endeavors at this time. Pink standards are harmoniously contrasted with falls that are a blend of white, light pink, and then washed on the edges in lavender. Some of the best plant habits and branching in existence. No picture captures the beauty and significance of this iris. A new one with similar patterning, except done in blue amoena tones, is SIGH AND WHIS-PERS (Black '90). Remindful of the classic FUJI'S MANTLE (Schreiner '66). but with stronger coloration in the falls and a healthier plant. Sure hope we don't have to wait another 25 years for the next advancement! Another new one that opens a whole new arena is SPRING SATIN (Black '89), already reviewed under the 9-1-1 Award section. A magnificent hybridizing achievement that was well noted and rewarded at the Premio Firenze in Italy this spring. Two varieties seen in Omaha went on the "Get List": MINTED HALO (Mueller '87) is a muted blend of a thousand colors (well, maybe a dozen or so!). To name a few—there's lavender, lilac, tan, white, gold, russet, rust—all somewhat unevenly blended. Then, the flower is capped with a halo of gold to tan. Just wait till it and SPRING SATIN start going steady. The pollen will be aflyin'! And from the master of new color combinations is SPRING TIDINGS (Shoop '89), a reverse bitone in varying degrees of lavender and pink, with the Shoop flush in the standards' midribs and a bright coral pink beard. Classics: BRANDY (McWhirter '81); FORBIDDEN (Dunn '80); STORMY SEAS (W. Jones '79).

SPACE AGE: If there was any doubt before, no more. Space Age irises have "arrived", with Sky Hooks placing as a runnerup this year to the highest award in the land. A new Space Age introduction must be competitive in form and finish with its non-adorned, bearded counterparts. There can be no excuse for inferior form or other defects—there are too many good ones on the market now that meet the challenge. The significance of the arrival of Space Age medians has been discussed under the 9-1-1 Award section, with the introduction of the white Space Age IB, HELGA'S HAT (Nichols '90). LIKE A CHARM (Byers '89) is Monty's first median Space Age release, and most promising. Soft vellow standards with warm white falls gently blended into the standards' color. Then there are blue horns. High quality, with respectable form and great show stalks. His MAGIC KINGDOM ('89) is his most beautiful to date. Soft, romantic blend of pastels, but basically an orange-pink and lavender bitone. The broad modern flowers have red-orange beards that tastefully, gracefully extend into slender white horns. Outstanding in Omaha. One of Monty's first offerings, SILVER SPOONS ('87) is still a favorite, with simple silvery-blue flowers displayed on SONG OF NORWAY-quality stalks. Blue beards extend into horns and then spoons/flounces. Somewhat erratic plant habits, but oh so classy. And then LURID ('87), a personal favorite because it is a child of Chris Waltermire's great pink-bearded white, HEAVEN HELPED. Lurid's beards are even more intense, displayed on blocky pure white flowers. Sinfully beckoning even when the beards don't transform into horns! A brand new Space Age introduction mysteriously appeared at the Sooner State show this spring. TRIPLE WHAMMY (Hager '90) is a colorful blending of old gold with light lavender in the falls, then with decadent bright purple beards and horns protruding from the heart. A tall, almost lanky stalk with wide branching, opening three large flowers at once. A wild one that is distinctive and most popular. SPECIAL FEATURE (Osborne '88) continues the Manley Osborne tradition of absolute quality. This one is among the deepest released to date, a deep purple near-self, with deep purple adornments that can be anything from horns to full flounces, depending upon the weather conditions and cultural practices of the grower.

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MATRIX (Earl Hall) Sdlg. 86-144-5SC. EC 1989. EM & RE (Sept. in VA). Wide pastel plicata, cinnamon on cream. Whole clump reblooms in mid Sept. Also, a superb parent, hence its name. (Violet Miracle X Brother Carl\$35.00
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<b>SIGN OF VIRGO</b> —37" EM & RE (mid August on in VA). Another super hard very early rebloomer, it gave 14 stalks in August '90. All were superly well branched. Flowers are a trifle small. White S., plicata E., violet of white. ((Goliath's Mate sib x Dawn Violet) x Skiers' Paradise) X Earl (Essex
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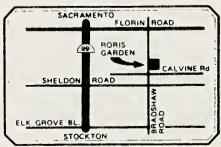
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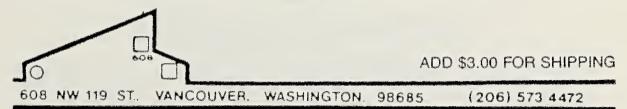


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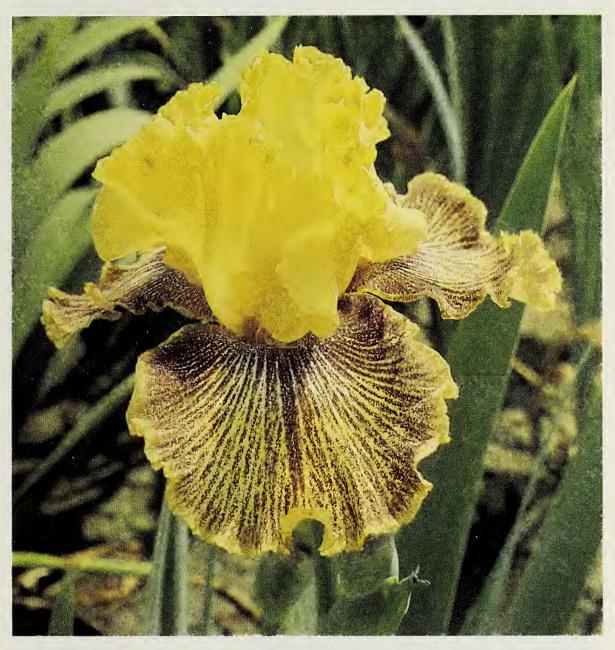
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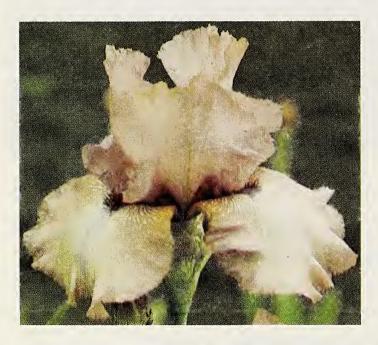
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JAPANESE IRISES

JAPANESE IKIS INTRODUCTION OF DR. CURRIER MCEWEN—1991
MIDSUMMER HAPPINESS 85/95F, Diploid, 6 falls, 39", EM-LM. The inner falls of the 7" flowers are almost as wide as the 4" outer ones. Lovely ruffling is enhanced by marked tufting of the styles and stamen petaloids giving exquisite form. Outstanding also is the color (RHS-95 C to D closest to true light blue that we have seen, with clean white lines extending to edges of falls. 1 branch and 3 buds
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HARPSWELL SNOWBURST: T6 83/37/(3), Tetraploid, 36", E-M. The out-
standing feature of these nicely shaped flowers are the dramatically stippled white signals which appear to burst out on the medium blue-violet (RHS-94C) silver-edged falls. 1 branch and 3 buds \$35
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of the 4-1/2" flowers are their charming ruffled form and lovely color. The standards and featured styles form a white cup at the bottom of which are 3 large purple spots. The falls are a pleasing pink-lilac (RHS-81D) darker around the signals and lighter at the outer edges. Green hafts. 1 branch and 3 buds
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#### ATTENTION HYBRIDIZERS

The Sooner State Iris Society is pleased to announce the Eleventh Annual

POLLEN DAUBERS' SEMINAR February 22-23, 1991

#### **IOHN WEILER**

has accepted our invitation to lead sessions on hybridizing for both established and budding future hybridizers. The sessions will focus on **Reblooming** irises. A fee of \$20.00 per person will be charged for the February 23 hybridizing sessions only (9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.). For further information or questions, write to:

Dr. William E. Jones 2312 Butternut Place, Edmond, OK 73013 Phone: 405/478-3498

or come at 7:30 P.M. on the 22nd (opening Sooner State meeting with program by John Weiler) to:

Will Rogers Garden Center

3400 N.W. 36 St., Oklahoma City

# Youth Views Catherine Long Gates

#### 500 WORDS = \$100.00

It is time for the 1991 Ackerman Memorial Youth Essay Contest. Any AIS youth member may enter the contest sponsored by the AIS Foundation. This year's topic is "My most interesting, exciting, or satisfying iris experience." Essays should be 500 words or less and must be submitted by February 15, 1991. Mail entries to Marilyn Holloway; 673 Acacia Avenue; Sacramento, CA 95815. The winner will receive \$100.00.

Region 14's Jerry Simmons captured the top prize in the 1990 contest with the following essay.

# My Interest In Irises By Jerry Simmons

My interest in iris all began in early childhood when my parents were growing many iris from Ralph and Sue Coleman. Every year we would go up to their garden to see the hundreds of different varieties in bloom, and we would often return to help them dig. I can remember mom used to rescue older varieties from the compost heap, despite protests from both Ralph and Sue like "that's junk—we'll give you some of this instead." We usually ended up taking home a little of the new, and a little of old.

Year by year our iris patch grew until we ended up with an iris garden. Then Dad and I happened upon a rhizome sale put on by the local iris society. I emptied my pocket of about \$13.00 of my birthday money to buy iris—a large fortune to me in those days. I got information on where the local club met, and showed up periodically at first, then on a regular basis.

When I was at Sue's house one weekend, she gave me some old AIS Bulletins. That led me down the path to becoming a member of AIS and a number of its sections, contributing articles to iris bulletins, joining many round robins on different types of iris, starting judge's training, becoming secretary of my local iris society and Chairman of AIS Hybridizing Robins. That same weekend, however, something even more profound happened—I learned to hybridize.

From that point on, I had my eyes on being the best hybridizer in the world, and being the youngest person to ever win the American Dyke's Medal. To that end I bought books on iris, studied information in round robins carefully, and started corresponding with vast numbers of iris growers and hybridizers to find out what they wanted and why, and how they thought they could reach their goals. I discovered the need of foreign hybridizers to have plants, seeds, and pollen of modern cultivars so I founded an international iris hybridizing

network with about three dozen iris hybridizers from all around the world. I made hundreds of crosses in 1989 and sent over 10,000 seeds overseas to be grown. The best seedlings will be sent back to me for possible introduction. Improving and promoting iris are my goals, and the network fulfills both.

I'm importing dozens of iris species from all around the world many of which have never been in cultivation in the United States, sending out rhizomes of modern iris overseas, and participating in all my local iris society's events. I hope to continue promoting iris by writing articles for garden magazines and newspapers—currently five magazines and a number of newspapers are considering my work. This year I will attend regional and national conventions. The network, my articles, judge's training, and participation in AIS and Region 14 represent the future of my iris interests, and it all started from the generosity of two people.

# Edge of Frost—A Bloomin' Wonder

F. Paul Magin, III (Utah)

We are pleased to report outstanding performance by Marie Dienstbach's Japanese Iris EDGE OF FROST in what must be one of the most inhospitable climates for JI's in the country, northern Utah.

After a normal bloom in June, a containerized EDGE OF FROST produced a rebloom of twelve flowers on five side branches and a terminal bud. The terminal bud was the first to open on August 3, 1990. Blooming continued through August 15, when the second terminal bud opened. What makes this performance especially impressive is that during the bloom period, temperatures averaged over 95-degrees and reached an all-time high of 103-degrees on August 8. Humidity was typically low and mostly in the 10 to 30 percent range. There was no rainfall, but the plant was watered almost daily.

Several inquiries to experienced JI growers and hybridizers indicate that this may be the maximum number of blooms ever observed on a JI. If so, it seems appropriate to share cultural information with other growers and potential growers. Especially, we hope that this information will encourage the growing of JI's by others who have admired their beauty but have been intimidated by their local climates.

In August of 1989, we planted a normal-sized division of EDGE OF FROST in a half-barrel. Five equally spaced holes of 0.75-inch diameter were drilled in the bottom, to provide drainage. These holes were each covered with a smooth rock, to minimize soil loss. The barrel was filled with BACCTO POTTING SOIL to within about four-inches of the top. The division was planted normally and mulched with 2 to 3-inches of SOIL PEP, which is a ground bark product. The plant was watered frequently and spent the winter in an exposed location without additional mulching or other protection. In the spring, MIRACID was applied twice, prior to the first bloom. The plant has grown vigorously and now, in mid-September of 1990, consists of about ten fans.

Of the foregoing, we attribute most of our good fortune to frequent watering and the use of BACCTO POTTING SOIL. The latter contains about 75 percent composted peat and about 25 percent sand. It is extremely moisture retentive and, unlike some highly organic materials, has not shown substantial shrinkage after 13 months of use.

In closing we would like to express our thanks to Marie Dienstbach for introducing this fine new hybrid to the JI community. Also, thanks to Melody Wilhoit for recommending it to us and to Dr. Currier McEwen for his helpful conversations.



#### **CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE** AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY FOUNDATION

**April 1, 1990 To September 30, 1990** 

#### CONTRIBUTIONS IN MEMORY OF:

#### Jim Alexander (KY)

Blue Grass Iris Society (KY)

#### Miss Tressie Cook (LA)

Dick Pettijohn (NE)

Leon and Edith Wolford (TX)

#### Don Denney (CA)

Virginia Messick (CA)

#### Florence Eben (OK)

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Jim McWhirter (CA)

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Mt. Diablo Iris Society (CA)

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Olive Rice (CA)

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#### **BEQUEST OF:**

Mathilda A. Reinhardt (WI)

GIFT OF:

Show Me Iris Society (MO) Andrew and Beverly Soll (NE) Tulsa Area Iris Society (OK)

The following is a tribute to Carol Lankow by Region 13

#### IN MEMORIAM – CAROL LANKOW

The iris world has lost a friend, a teacher and a leading median hybridizer with the death of Carol Lankow on October 15, 1990, following a prolonged illness.

Carol was born May 8, 1928, in Evanston Illinois, met and married husband George in New Jersey, where she first became interested in irises. She began hybridizing in Minnesota, but the main thrust of her iris work occurred after moving to Kirkland, Washington, in 1972. With her husband George, they began Kirkland Iris Garden, from which they distributed irises all over the United States.

Her garden has been a key ingredient in iris activities in the Puget Sound area and Region 13 as a whole. Carol was guest iris chairperson for the AIS convention in 1984 in Seattle-Tacoma and their garden was on tour for that convention.

Carol was a member of the King Country Iris Society and served in many organizational capacities. She was a director of the Dwarf Iris Society and recording secretary for the Median Iris Society. She wrote articles for the Medianite and the AIS Bulletin and was a major contributor of information on border bearded irises for the AIS Judge's Handbook.

Among Carol's iris introductions which won AIS awards are STRAW HAT, BROAD GRIN (SDBs); ANDI, COUNTRY DEEJAY, MOSS BAY and ASK ALMA (IBs) and SOUNDER (BB). Her plant breeding program provides a broad and comprehensive foundation upon which many hybridizers can build in the future.

Carol will be sorely missed, but her legacy of wit, wisdom, methodology and plants will carry on through the future history of Median iris activities and development.

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

Mrs. H. R. (Bill) Hensel (Oklahoma) Carol Lankow (Washington) Louis Matthews (Tennessee) Bettie Osborne (California) Mrs. Perry (Kay) Parrish (Oklahoma) Georgiana Rebleich (Maryland)

#### IN MEMORIAM

#### LOIS "JONNYE" RICH

Ben R. Hager

Jonnye is gone. We will miss her.

Lois "Jonnye" Rich was one of those interesting people whose life was dominated by her involvement with irises. The two sections of the genus that she worked with were at each end of the iris season: the ARILBREDS which bloom in the early season and when they were finished she turned to the JAPANESE IRIS for the end of the season. Very sensible. Her mind could be completely occupied by the one and when that bloom season finished she could turn to the other and be as completely occupied with it as she had been with the earlier interest. The results were seedlings that displayed the full scope and possibilities of both types and revealed a full knowledge of the differing subject's unique potential. She was rewarded for such efforts with two C. G. White Awards: LOUD MOUTH (CGW 1976) and ZEMIRA (CGW 1985), and two Payne Awards: STAR AT MIDNIGHT (Payne 1965) and TUPTIM (Payne 1977).

Jonnye and her late husband Raymond "Rex" Rich became interested in the aril and arilbred irises on a visit to Lloyd Austin's Rainbow Gardens where they saw examples of his extensive work in that field. They immediately started collecting and breeding with the Austin irises and with the pure aril seedlings of Herbert Kerr. Through the latter they became acquainted and involved with Leo Clarke who encouraged Jonnye to begin the processes of embryo culture—a method which greatly facilitated the germination and growth of the arilbred seedlings. In appreciation she embryo cultured Leo Clarke's seedlings as well as her own.

Jonnye's interest ranged through all the varying types of arilbreds from the Miniature Dwarfs: TINY TYKE '74 (HM '75) and TINY PIRATE '90, the Median range: LOUD MOUTH '70 (CGW '76), CANASTA '75 (HM '70), NIGHT LIGHT '75, CALYPSO CLOWN '78, (HM '80), and ZIZAH '83 (HM '83), to the spectacular larger flowered varieties such as VEILED INTRUDER '78 (HM '80), JEWELED VEIL '78 (HM '80) and ZEMIRA '79 (CGW '85). One of Jonnye's favorites was QUINTA '76 which proved to be a pentaploid (five sets of

chromosomes) which was never-the-less fertile and was used extensively in her crosses.

After the death of Eugene Sundt, some of his seed which had not gotten planted were sent to Jonnye. She embryo cultured them. Among them was the one that gave us WELCOME REWARD, the iris that brought a new revolution in the breeding of arilbreds. It is a cross of Tall Bearded and pure aril irises that turned out to be in the fertile 44 chromosome range.

Not long after the arilbred irises became a full fledged interest, Jonnye branched out into the Japanese irises. She became acquainted with a near neighbor who was currently working with these irises reclusively in his back yard, and with his irises and some from Walter Marx, Jonnye's line of Japanese iris was established.

More to get the Fred Maddocks irises on the market than her own, she approached Melrose Gardens as introducers, a relationship which has remained constant through the following years. Unfortunately, Melrose Gardens ran into nematode problems with the Japanese irises (a problem that took nearly ten years to completely resolve) so that Jonnye's Japanese irises have not had distribution for several of those years. But happily, there are still many of Jonnye's beautiful arilbred and Japanese iris seedlings ready for the market. Melrose Gardens is now retired but Jim and Barbara Whitley are now in charge of the arilbred seedlings and will bring them to us in the future.

Arrangements for the introduction of the Japanese irises have not been finalized but soon will be. Watch for the announcements of the introductions from both these iris sections.

So Jonnye's irises will remain to gladden our spring gardens for many years to come though she is no longer here to spread the pollen.

# CARL G. SCHULZ Ruthy Bennett

In view of Castle Craig, Carl Schulz lived most of his life in the same Meriden house in which he was born on April 17, 1917. Gladiolus were his father's favorite flower, and after serving in civil service and in the Pacific during WWII, Carl returned home to Castle Craig Gardens. A frost in '48 wiped out 9,000 of the 15,000 glads and it was then Carl decided to grow irises.

His dedication to the iris resulted in his actively serving AIS as a Master Judge and as the Program Chairman for the '83 National Convention Committee. For Region 1 he was a past RVP, Assistant RVP, Treasurer, and Judge's Training Chairman. During his term as RVP, he was known for his participation at all region meetings and visiting all the gardens in the region. Quite an accomplishment, along with faithfully serving CIS as Treasurer during most of his 40 years of membership.

With a career in banking, working in the garden gave him great enjoyment and relaxation. His iris introductions included: CHARLI MAY '77, KRISTINA MARIE '89, STEVIE C. '89, and ORIOLE OAK '89. He was an active member of Immanuel Lutheran Church where he served as Treasurer for 30 years and as a church council member.

Many can trace their membership back to Carl's first introducing them to the iris. At garden club presentations or at a fair display booth, he actively promoted the world of irises, hybridizing, and AIS. For others it was visiting his garden where he gave away more irises than he sold. Putting two enjoyments together, people and irises, Carl and his wife, Ruth, traveled not only as garden club speakers and show judges but also as enthusiastic conventioneers. They enjoyed many of their iris friends at the '90 Japanese Iris Convention in Maine. This time holds many special memories for all of us and Ruth as Carl suddenly died on August 27, 1990. He is survived by not only his wife, Ruth, but also his three daughters, and two grandchildren. He will also be remembered as a great friend and fellow iris gardener!

# Experiences at the Florence, Italy International Iris Competition, 1990

John Weiler (California)

The Italian Iris Society produces much more than a hillside of spectacular, new Iris bloom annually. They also build friendships as outstanding hosts to the international team of judges evaluating the plantings for each year's competition. Villas, homes and gardens open to the judges on free afternoons and evenings where excellent hospitality, the delicious food of Tuscany, and even for a Californian, some of the best Chianti wines yet sampled are abundant. In any spare time during the day there is the glorious and graceful city of Florence (Firenze) astride the Arno River and nestled between lush, green hills beckoning with art museums, archeological treasures, beautiful buildings, some a millenium old and works of the world's great renaissance artists like Michelangelo, Botticelli and many more. In such an ambiance, acquaintences and friendships develop rapidly.

Memorable for hospitality are the visits to homes and gardens of Dr. Sergio Orsi, president of the Italian Iris Society and of Dr. Giuseppi Tognozzi. At both homes we met the delightful families, were served delectable foods of the Tuscany area and made most comfortable with evenings of friendly conversations in a relaxed atmosphere. Besides this warm invitation to visit homes and families, judges were also coddled by other members of the Italian Iris Society. Signora Bebe Pacciani wrote to, comforted and welcomed judges to the city, helped in scheduling extracurricular visits and catered to the judges whims. Mrs. Margaret Cameron Longo, originally from Scotland and now a resident of Italy served not only as one of the judges but also as a translator and go-between when discussions of relative merit for an Iris became heated. As a thoughtful gesture to the judges panel, the Italian Iris Society brought from England Mr. Ian Smith who was overseer of accommodations for the judges, helped with translations when necessary at local hotels, pensiones and restaurants and, in general, made certain that the judges' questions and bewilderments were satisfied.

It was my pleasure to serve on the judges' panel, otherwise an outstanding representation of expertise in bearded irises, a bringing together of qualified

judges from around the world. Elected by the judges as chairman was Dr. Milan Blazek, director of the botanical garden, Prague, Czechoslovakia. A soft-spoken man with a pleasant smile, he was the perfect diplomat to smooth differences of opinion. He also astounded us with his knowledge of not only irises but also of languages. Besides his native tongue he spoke fluent German, English and delivered his comments in Italian for the judges panel at the awards ceremony in Palazzo Vecchio, the 14th century palace now serving as the City Hall of Florence. Sidney Linnegar, co-author of the English book, Growing Irises, Show Secretary of the British Iris Society and recently elected President of the British Remontant Iris Group (BRIG) worked in the gardens studying and evaluating almost daily before voting and took it upon himself to make photographs of winning Iris cultivars from each year of the Florence competitions beginning with the late 1950s. All are still growing in the gardens. Rita Caldwell from Australia, bubbly and vivacious, had comments for all situations, knew irises very thoroughly, and made her evaluations confidently. Dr. Gian Luigi Sani, a judge of the Italian Iris Society bustled and fretted about his favorite irises, cajoled and challenged other judges, and made each of us look again to be certain of our evaluations. Margaret Cameron Longo, patience personified, helped immeasurably as a competent judge and as interpreter when the need arose.

Irises? Oh yes! The results of voting and the prizes! Each year ten prizes are given to what judges evaluate as the best ten tall bearded irises and one prize is awarded to the best border bearded Iris in competition based on the same traits considered important in the AIS judges handbook. Important are flower form, substance, and color; branching and bud count; floriferousness judged by the relative number of bloom stalks; the number of increase remaining on three year clumps; vigor; and disease resistance. This year the top ten awards went exclusively to U.S. hybridizers' entries, judged under garden code numbers and revealed as to registered name or seedling number after judging was complete. The cultivar scoring most collective points on judges' evaluations was given first place. The complete ranking of the top ten is shown below.

#### TOP TEN TALL BEARDED

- 1. SKYBLAZE (K. Keppel)
- 2. 83-21-B (F. Carr)
- 3. ORANGE SLICES (D. Niswonger)
- 4. FANCY BRASS (Schreiners)
- 5. CRITIC (S. Innerst)
- 6. SNOWBROOK (K. Keppel)
- 7. SUNSHINE SONG (D. Niswonger)
- 8. SILVERADO (Schreiners)
- 9. SPRING SATIN (P. Black)
- 10. ROMANTIC MOOD (J. Ghio)

#### BEST BORDER BEARDED

1. BERRY RICH (A. Ensminger)

There are also special prizes awarded. For these prizes there may be only one trait of the cultivar considered such as earliness or lateness in flowering, or the best for specific flower color like red or pink, or some other feature like best branching. The special prizes are listed below.

#### SPECIAL PRIZES

Best Red Color—PIBA851 (Silvano Volani)

Best Original Color—SPRING SATIN (P. Black)

Best Pink Color—85-112A (P. Black)

Best Early Bloomer—SUNNY AND WARM (J. Gatty)

Best Branched—83-21-B (F. Carr)

Best Commercial Variety—SKYBLAZE (K. Keppel)

Best Garden Variety—FANCY BRASS (Schreiners)

Best of Italian Entries—DEDE BOFFANO (Dr. Giuseppi Boffano)

The Hybridizer having

the most cultivars in

the top six —(K. Keppel)

This was, perhaps, my most enjoyable experience in judging irises. The camaraderie, the new friendships, the irises, the overwhelming experience of seeing both ancient and recent accomplishments of the human race make me want some day to see much more of Italy and its wonderful people. Thank you members of the Italian Iris Society, and arrivederci!

#### **Best of the Best**

Austin Morgan (Washington)

Not much recognition has been given to some irises that I consider to be outstanding. WELL ENDOWED to me is by far the best yellow—large flowers, intense yellow, plenty of body and very smooth finish.

Mrs. Jeanette Nelson produced STUNNING: red, red falls with lilac precise rim and lilac stands. At least two regions designated it their flower of the year, but I've heard of nothing more. A clump in full bloom is breathtaking.

HOWDY FOLKS causes considerable attention. Its dark "hafts" extend well below the end of the beard and it almost makes you believe it is reaching out a hand of welcome.

Greatly overlooked is PETITE POSY which has very laced pinkish rims on all edges. Maybe its delicate tone doesn't measure up as a startler.

The finest pink is BEVERLY SILLS. She did achieve the Dykes. PINK KITTEN IS OUTSTANDING AS AN EARLY INTERMEDIATE, but is out of bloom too soon to be seen by tall iris enthusiasts. Chet Tompkin's OVATION is so intense that it is impossible to ignore.

Blacks considered best here are BLACK BART, MATINATA, and INTERPOL. In the plicatas nothing has really surpassed STEPPING OUT which ruled the roost for years. My SHIELD is, however, darker with a full pure white blaze shaped dramatically like the knighthood shields of yore.

Japanese from Tokyo and Germans from West Berlin saw my TRIUMPHAL ENTRY and SNOW WHITE PLUS resulting in sizeable orders being shipped both east and west of U.S. borders. From these two I'm now getting "double rimmers" which also have double rimmed standards. The variations must be seen to be appreciated.

The more than 1,000 crosses made this year, with 90% plus takes, will be blooming for the first time in '92 and '93.

I admit I'm prejudiced, but I have no use for the present pushing and promoting of the disfigured irises now offered by the world's biggest growers. The fold back falls of these varieties are horrid monstrosities—they are foisted on unsuspecting suckers as the present "rage."

Novelties are spectacular: WILD CARD and BREAKAWAY PHENOMENON have an unstable top layer on the falls which creates crazy patterns with no two falls the same. Horned irises as a novelty are strikingly represented by SKY HOOKS. It has elongated beards which end up testing the atmosphere away from the flower proper. FULL TIGER STRIPES is a spinoff of HOLD THAT TIGER. FULL TIGER STRIPES has stripes all the way to the bottom edge of the falls. To my knowledge no other similar iris exists. SNOW WHITE PLUS has a lime inset band just inside the outside edge of the falls. It also has a brilliant red beard. This is a double spectacle. The first iris with an inner band is INNER BAND SURPRISE.

PARIS LIGHTS, TOMECO and HARDY WAR (hardy version of the "soft" WAR LORD) are top reds. HEAVEN'S BEST, CELESTIAL SWAN and LACED COTTON are top whites. BLUE LUSTER and VICTORIA FALLS are exciting blues. Lavender is ably represented by GRAND WALTZ. CHIPPENDALE will do for a good brown. SNOW MOUND from Schreiners, a bi-color, and MEET THE BOSS are tops in contrasting stands and falls. LIME FIZZ is really laced. The oranges really send me.

Haft marks are sometimes eliminated by trick photography—a deceiving tilting stunt.

Some of the hundreds of hybridizers use oldies in their crosses expecting to have miracles happen. Planned parenthood using the finest irises available in planned crosses to get recessive characteristics to surface is a real art requiring a knowledge of genetics and sometimes many years before desired results appear. It took me 20 years to get TRIUMPHAL ENTRY and SNOW WHITE PLUS.

With somewhere in the neighborhood of 500 serious hybridizers wanting to peddle their offspring, "buyer beware" is an awfully good admonition. Fact: It is almost impossible to develop a totally different tall bearded iris these days. Stick with the tried and true—mostly the "NEW" iris are just "EXPENSIVE" reruns with hypnotic promoters.

Swapping increase with fellow iris lovers is a good money saving practice. Join an iris club if possible. Also, I recommend membership in the American Iris Society, the best organized horticultural group I know having been part of the official infra-structure.

#### **Voice Of The Amateur**

Marie Caillet (Texas)

Some of you will associate my name with Louisiana irises, but if you have been to my garden you know I try growing many things. I was told when I moved to North Texas from South Louisiana that Louisiana irises could not be grown here. Of course we now know they may grow here even better than they do in Louisiana—or maybe we just try harder! I got the same 'song and dance' when I asked about growing Japanese irises. Even the horticulturists at one of the area botanical gardens said they had tried and failed. When I told this to Adolph Vogt several years ago, he sent me some to try. From this beginning I have added plants from several sources and experienced some trial and error culture.

First, I must say that many I planted did not survive and that some of the recommended culture methods were not satisfactory for me. It has now boiled down to growing them much as I grow the Louisianas. I tried growing some in pots that I placed in my pond in the spring and summer. These were to be removed in the winter, but I couldn't lift the pots nor dislodge them from the clay in the bottom of the pond. This method was discarded. I next planted them in the heavy clay on the banks of the pond. They love it and grow and bloom beautifully, but there is no way I'll ever be able to dig them to divide and transplant.

Two years ago, I planted 16 varieties in a slightly lowered bed lined with heavy plastic to keep tree roots out. The soil was prepared as for Louisianas—composted oak leaves and pine needles, an acid type fertilizer, peat moss and enough of the clay to hold the mixture together. By this October the plants were so thick it was difficult to distinguish one clump from another. There were possibly several hundred fans, but I did not attempt to divide them that closely. I replanted that same bed, another larger one and a third bed I will be able to see from my glass porch next spring. As this took only about half of them, the neighbor is planting a bed and my yardman has lined out each variety and hopes to sell some in the future!

I don't grow any irises just for the foliage or increase, so I want to report on the bloom in the spring of 1990. I estimated that a bed of 16 plants produced over 400 stalks, with some varieties having far more than others. One had 59 bloom stalks, but most produced between 20 and 30 stalks. Only two plants were really shy of blooms and they were also short on increase. Since I am a rank amateur, I will not report on specific varieties by name. It is possible those varieties are not suited for this area or that something happened to stunt their growth. I will give them another year to prove themselves.

Few iris people saw these magnificent blooms, but my neighbors enjoyed them. I supplied about three or four dozen stalks for a neighborhood wedding the last of May, when no one expects irises to still be blooming. They got more attention than the bride! Only a few of the several hundred guests knew what they were. I gave away most of the stalks, as the Texas heat and wind in May are too much for the delicate blooms of Japanese irises. This doesn't mean I will give up growing them, but I cannot recommend them for a landscape plant in this climate. Perhaps they would do better in more shade and in a walled or protected garden. At least I know they will grow, increase and bloom here, despite what the 'experts' believed!

Perhaps my experience with Japanese irises could be called beginner's luck, but I don't think so. I am inclined to think the growers in North Texas have never given them a chance. They are a lovely addition to the garden and produce a multitude of flowers when all the other irises are gone. Those of you who have been growing them know this. Now I do.

#### Water Absorbing Polymers As A Soil Amendment For Bearded Iris

Eugene Loop (California)

#### Introduction

In recent years there has been an increase in advertisements indicating horticultural advantages to be gained by incorporating water-absorbing polymers into soil. Among the purported advantages are less water consumption, and better plant growth due to less plant stress from over and under watering.

The general idea goes something like this. Tiny pieces of polymer in the order of 1/8 inch when dry, absorb many times their weight in water and form chunks of gel 1/2 inch or more in size. Because plant roots will grow into the gel and can absorb water from it, the soil itself can be kept drier without the plant suffering from lack of water. With drier soil the loss of water through evaporation is reduced. When the plants finally are watered, any excess water is absorbed by the polymer thus avoiding any waterlogged condition.

To see if any of this works with iris, tests were set up in the gardens of Gene and Joanne Loop in Walnut Creek, California, and of Lewis and Adele Lawyer in Oakland, California.

The results were not encouraging. The use of the polymer did not significantly reduce water consumption, nor improve vigor or bloom. The results were, however, reasonably in line with data in the literature. It appears that the polymers are effective only on very droughty soils, and with irrigation water free of salts.

#### **Description of Tests**

The test principle was to grow a number of iris rhizomes in pots, both with and without polymer, and to compare the water consumption and growth.

The polymer chosen for the tests was Broadleaf P4, distributed by Broadleaf Industries in San Diego, California. This polymer was featured in an article in Sunset Magazine in April, 1987. Two other polymers that claim similar characteristics, and that are available in retail nurseries in Northern California, are Terra-Sorb from Industrial Services International, and Super-Sorb from Aquatrols Corporation of America.

Instructions accompanying the P4 polymer recommend an application rate in potting soil of one ounce per cubic foot of soil. Accordingly, tests were set up to compare three different soil treatments: one treatment using the full recommended rate, one using half this rate, and one using zero polymer for control.

Iris rhizomes for the tests were all DOUBLE BANDED, Boswell. 1988, and were contributed by Carl Boswell, Four rhizomes, planted one to a pot, were used for each of the three soil treatments, making a total of twelve plants at each garden location. Soil for the test was taken from the garden where the test was conducted.

The soil at the Loop garden was an adobe clay that has been amended over the years with many applications of organic materials. Three weeks prior to removing soil for the test, the soil bed was prepared for the 1989 planting by adding gypsum, 13-5-5 fertilizer, and a two inch layer of mushroom compost. This was thoroughly tilled into the soil and followed by treatment with Vapam soil fumigant. Soil for the test was scooped from the top 3 inches and sifted through a 1/4-inch screen.

The Lawyer soil, a lighter material of principally decomposed rhyolite, was also sifted through 1/4-inch mesh to remove the larger stones. Single-super phosphate, and a slow-release fertilizer, 20-5-5, containing 5% sulphur, 1% iron, 0.15% manganese, and 0.15% zinc were added and thoroughly mixed through the soil.

The prepared test soils were divided equally by volume into three containers, or piles. Dry polymer was added to two of the containers, one at half the recommended rate, and the other at the full rate. The soil was then added to the pots. The Loops used larger pots than the Lawyers, each pot containing 1.4 gallons of soil, whereas the Lawyers' pots contained 0.67 gallons. The rhizomes were sorted by size so that the size variation was the same in each treatment. Finally, the plants were watered to saturation.

The water absorbed was carefully measured at each watering. To do this, pans were placed under the four pots to catch the drainage water. A measured volume of fresh water was added to the pots at the top. Drainage into the pans was returned to the top until there was water left in the pans which would not absorb. This final drainage was measured, and the net water absorbed was calculated. The Lawyers reserved the excess drainage water and added it to the amount used in the next watering to avoid loss of nutrients. The Loops used fresh water at each watering.

All water to the plants was measured from planting in August until mid-October. After this the plants were tended normally without measuring water. The Loops kept their plants until after they bloomed. At that point the number of blooms and the number of increases was recorded. After bloom, the plants were dumped from the pots and the roots examined. The Lawyers did not keep their plants through bloom, but did record the number of increases. At the end of the tests the plants were dumped out of the pots and the root growth examined.

#### Results

Table 1 shows water consumption data from tests at both gardens. The data are presented as the amount of water per gallon of soil. Aside from any affect of the polymer, there is a general difference between the Loop and the Lawyer figures, which is mostly due to the soil type. The lighter, more porous soil from the Lawyer garden holds less water at saturation and therefore requires watering more often than the heavy clay from the Loop garden. The data are best compared by examining the average water added per day at both gardens. The Lawyers used a little more per day, possibly due to soil type, but probably due to the smaller pots which expose a greater surface to the atmosphere per volume of soil.

The differences between the treatments with and without polymer are similar at both gardens. As expected, the pots with polymer absorbed more water initially, as the pieces of dry polymer fill with water to form the gel. The amount of extra water absorbed is presented in the table in two ways: First, relative to the amount held by the soil alone (percent over control), and second, relative to the amount of polymer (grams of water per gram of polymer). Relative to the soil, the polymer treatments at the Lawyer garden picked up more water. This shows how a given amount of polymer has a greater effect on a lighter soil that holds less water to begin Relative to the polymer, the figures for both gardens seem to show that the polymer has absorbed somewhere between 64 to 125 times its own weight in water. But there is a problem here because the polymer absorbed more water in the half treatment than with the full treatment. This is probably not real. Probably, the polymer as it swells, can reduce the pore space in the soil so that the soil itself holds less water. The effect increases as the amount of polymer is increased. So, in the experiment reported here, the amount of water held by the polymer alone cannot be determined accurately.

Table 2 shows growth and bloom data. This shows that the plants grew evenly. There was not a significant difference in leaf height, rhizome increases, or bloom count between the control plants and those with polymer in the soil.

One interesting and possibly positive result was noted at the Lawyer garden when the plants were dumped out to examine the roots. The roots in the pots with polymer were distinctly larger in diameter than on the control. Disappointingly, this difference was not evident on the plants from the Loop garden, nor was the different root growth reflected in the top growth. No mention of the effect on root growth alone was found in the literature reviewed by the author. Perhaps there is room for study in this area.

#### Discussion

Some conjecture as to why the polymer failed to save water is in order. First of all, an article by Dr. Dean Piper,<sup>2</sup> was included with the literature from Broadleaf Industries. This article states that the P4 works better in sandy soils that retain little moisture, and also points out that the water holding capacity is less with tap water containing salts than with distilled water. This could explain the poor results in the Loop garden where the adobe clay with lots of organics has a very high water retention, and the water supply from the Sacramento River has a high salt content in the range of 350 ppm TDS (Total Dissolved Solids). But even in the Lawyer's porous, rocky soil and with their soft, mountain water in the range of 80 ppm TDS, there was no significant benefits.

Articles based on experiments at the University of California at Davis by Dr. Richard Evans and others,<sup>3</sup> <sup>4</sup> give reason to believe that the results could have been predicted. These articles emphasize that the polymers are only effective on soil with very poor water-holding capacity, and also point out that the presence of fertilizer can reduce the effectiveness of the polymers by as much as 75 percent. The presence of calcium or magnesium salts can reduce the effectiveness by as much as 90 percent. Both the Loops and the Lawyers added fertilizers, and both added calcium to the soil via gypsum or super-phosphate.

For anyone wanting to read more on the polymers, the last reference listed below from the *Journal American Society of Horticultural Science* has a paragraph on studies made since 1980 with a list of some 17 references.

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- 2. Piper, C. Dean: "Soil Amendments: What's New?, Unpublished. Presented at 1988 Xeriscape Conference, San Diego CA, Feb 4 & 5.
- 3. Evans, Richard Y. "Use of Hydrophillic Polymers in Container Plant Production", Flower Notes, Vol 3 No 2, June 9, 1989. Issued by Cooperative Extension, Univ. of Cal., San Mateo County, Half Moon Bay, CA.
- 4. Bowman, Daniel C., Evans, Richard Y., & Paul, J. L. "Fertilizer Salts Reduce Hydration of Polyacrylamide Gels and affect Physical Properties of Gel-amended Container Media" Jour. Amer. Soc. Hort. Sci. 115(3): 382-386.

# TABLE 1 SUMMARY OF WATER ABSORBED IN CUBIC CENTIMETERS PER GALLON OF SOIL

LOOP					LAWYER	3			
				Initial Watering					
Date	Control	Half	Full	J	Date	Control	Half	Full	
8/23	1229	1465	1471		8/24	627	806	873	
% over	control	19%	20%				28%	39%	
Gms Wa	ater/Gms Poly	125	64				94	65	

				Added Water				
8/31*	324	324	324		8/31	537	525	537
9/5	800	780	794		9/4	358	419	436
9/18	788	794	794		9/8	448	448	487
10/9	1019	1024	1038		9/13	358	387	425
					9/20	492	413	413
					10/4	448	448	492
					10/7	470	431	381
					10/12	498	451	478
			COOLINGTON PROPERTY.		10/20	403	346	336
TOTAL	2931	2922	2950		TOTAL	4012	3868	3985
Per day	62	62	63		Per day	70	68	70
				Total Water Used	1			
TOTAL	4160	4387	4421		TOTAL	4639	4674	4858

<sup>\*</sup>Soil at the Loop garden was not saturated on 8/31

TABLE 2
GROWTH AND BLOOM

Counts are total for four plants in each treatment

	LOOP			LAWYER		
	Control	Half	Full	Control	Half	Full
Number of increases	4	4	3	4	4	4
Number of bloom stalks	2	2	2			
Number of buds	8	9	8			
Average height of	40	10	40			
tallest leaf in inches	13	12	13			

#### Polymers As An Aid To Water Penetration

Adele S. Lawyer (California)

Dr. Robert Raabe of the University of California, summarized articles in the Summer 1990 issue of Pacific Horticulture, which had been published in two Soil Science issues, Vol. 141:315-36 and Vol. 148:355-360. These articles show that experiments conducted in California, Utah, and New Mexico demonstrate the value of polyacrylamide polymers in crust-forming soils. These results are similar to those obtained using Krilium about thirty years ago. The company for which I worked, Del Monte, used Krilium commercially at that time for tomato seed germination in difficult soils, drilling it down the row with the seed. Dr. Raabe reports that the emergence and growth of tomato, cotton, lettuce, and three grass species improved when the polyacrylamide polymers were added to the soil as a solution after seeding. The effects on the soil were to reduce shear strength and improve water infiltration. Although Krilium was effective, the amount of polyacrylamide necessary to produce similar results is far less and would be more economic. This application for polymers would seem to be a practical use for soils which are compacted or surfaceseal for other reasons.

#### Iris X Pacifica, Ghio

Norlan C. Henderson (Missouri)

The International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, Article 2.1 states, "Every individual plant is treated as belonging to a number of taxa of consecutively subordinate ranks, among which the rank of species is basal."

Article 28.1, "Plants brought from the wild into cultivation retain the names that are applied to the same taxa growing in nature."

Article 28.2, "Hybrids, including those arising in cultivation, may receive names as provided in Appendix I."

Article H.4.1 (From Appendix I) states, "When all the parent taxa can be postulated or are known, a nothotaxon (hybrid) is circumscribed so as to include all individuals (as far as they can be recognized) derived from the crossing of the stated set of parent taxa (i.e. not only the F1 but subsequent filial generations and also back-crosses and combinations of these). There can thus be only one correct name corresponding to a particular hybrid formula; this is the earliest legitimate name in the appropriate rank, and other names to which the same hybrid formula applies are synonyms of it."

R. C. Foster (1936) described a hybrid from Northern California and Southern Oregon as *Iris X thompsonii* and listed its parents as *Iris douglasiana X Iris innominata*. Lenz (1958) recognizes this by stating, "I have concluded that the name *I. thompsonii* has been used to cover a series of hybrids usually between *I douglasiana* and *I. innominata* but occasionally also for plants showing introgression with *I. bracteata*."

As far as I have been able to find, this is the earliest name applied to the hybrid produced by these two species. *Iris* X *aureonympha* a garden hybrid produced and Named by C. S. & E. H. English (1948) between these, *Iris douglasiana* X *Iris innominata*, as well as all of those other hybrids listed throughout the literature as being derived from these must be considered as *Iris* X *thompsonii*.

The crossing and ultimate introgression with *I. bracteata* would therefore constitute a different formula and would have to receive yet another name. Although Lenz records it as:

Iris bracteata X (I. douglasiana X I. innominata).

It could have and may have occurred in two other ways:

I. douglasiana X (I. bracteata X I. innominata)

I. innominata X (I. bracteata X I. douglasiana).

Lenz (1959) on page 247 gives a chart showing the natural hybrids between eleven species of this group of Irises. *Iris douglasiana* had hybridized with five other species which are designated only by such a formula as (*Iris douglasiana X Iris innominata*) or (*Iris douglasiana X Iris tenax*) etc.. *Iris munzii* was not known to have hybridized with any of the other species.

On page 241 he shows another chart of garden hybrids produced between the various species in which every species has been involved. *Iris doug-* lasiana has produced hybrids with all ten of the others. Iris fernaldii has been successfully crossed with only I. douglasiana and I. innominata. All of the others have produced hybrids with at least five other species. Since it is difficult to determine which parent was the seed-parent and which was the pollen-parent in natural hybrids, the parentage is listed alphabetically. This chart shows 35 separate primary crosses between the basic 11 species. This would require 35 different names or formulae.

If any one of these hybrids is crossed to a species not listed as one of the original parents, another name or formula must be used. If two of these hybrids are crossed, the offspring must be given still another formula, and on and on.

In man-made hybrids, if accurate records are kept, the seed-parent is listed first. Thus it is possible to record reciprocal crosses and any differences that may occur. From a single cross, that may produce a number of slightly different seedlings, hybridizers may select a particular one and propagate it vegetatively (a clone) and give it a name recorded as a cultivar (cv). As can be readily seen, this soon becomes so complex that it becomes almost impossible to separate them taxonomically.

In a review of the Iris Check List for 1959, published by the American Iris Society the year after the preceding paper, 61 cultivars involving various ones of these species were named, many of them listed as "parentage unknown". Unless the parentage can be clearly shown or postulated with good evidence, there has been no "species epithet" made into which these cultivars (cv.) can be placed.

Ghio (1990) introduced a new CA cultivar named 'HERALD' for which he lists a rather complicated parentage. In an attempt to work this out in detail, I find such interesting things as 'EMIGRANT' (Ghio, 1980) "Hargrave seed of unknown parentage from Australia", 'AMIQUITA' (Nies, 1947) "A volunteer seedling", and 'GRUBSTAKE' (Lenz, 1963) "From two seedlings."

As some of these modern cultivars as well as some of the other hybrids of unknown parentage appear as specimens filed in herbaria throughout the world, what sort of name can be placed on them? It becomes of paramount importance to those of us involved in taxonomic studies of the genus. Article H.4.1 of the International Code allows the freedom to circumscribe a hybrid name to include all of the parents that would be involved in such a complicated hybrid.

Iris californica cannot be used since the name had been applied by Leichtlin (1897), Purdy (1898), and Abrams (1923) and now reduced to synonymy in favor of Iris macrosiphon (Torrey, 1857). In much of our literature, even to the Check List and to the Registration List for 1989, the designation for these hybrids are the Californicas. Mathew (1989) places all of the species in this group under "Sub-genus LIMNIRIS, Section LIMNIRIS, Series CALIFORNICAE ('Pacific Coast Irises')."

I am suggesting, here, that the name Iris X pacifica be used to designate all of the multispecies hybrids and even those bispecies hybrids for which the

parentage is unknown or only suspected. Joseph J. Ghio, Bay View Gardens of Santa Cruz, California, has been using the term "Pacificas" for this group of garden hybrids since 1970. I am, therefore, giving him credit for the name.

This designation does not change the recognized species at all, nor their placement in the Series CALIFORNICAE. It simply provides an epithet under which these various hybrids can be placed within the Series. Those bispecies hybrids for which the parentage is known and for which a hybrid formula has been published, will remain just as they are.

Lenz (1959) on page 245, shows another chart in which garden hybrids have been produced between six different species of the Pacificas and six species of the Siberians. Since these that are listed, are interspecific involving only two species and in each instance the parentage is known, a formula is all that has been assigned to them such as: *Iris tenax X Iris wilsonii* or *Iris douglasiana X Iris chrysographes*. The latter was also given the cultivar name of 'Margot Holmes'. Lenz also states that all of these interseries hybrids have proven to be sterile. Unless these sterility barriers are broken in some way these can continue to be listed by simple formulae.

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## **International Iris Hybridizing Network**

Jerry Simmons (California)

When I learned to hybridize irises several years ago, I had my heart set on making a difference with my work. I realized right from the very beginning that my postage stamp sized city lot wasn't going to be able to supply sufficient room for all the iris seedlings that I'd like to grow every year. To help advance irises quickly, I knew that what was needed were large tracts of land, modern iris varieties to work with, many people to go through the seedlings and pick out the best for introduction or further hybridizing, and a method of distributing the best irises once they were produced. I already had approximately 700 modern irises to work with and a method of distribution, but I needed land and more people to go through the seedlings. As I was pondering how I could solve those two problems, I read a letter from a man in South Africa asking me to send seeds for him. In reading through the rest of my mail, I came across a letter from a woman who asked if I might be willing to send iris pollen to a man in England.

Foreign hybridizers, it was explained, were having trouble getting modern varieties to work with because a new iris rhizome could cost as much as thirty dollars not including postage, and if they live in a country whose currency is

worth less than the dollar, then it costs even more in the process of having the currency changed into dollars. Strict agricultural regulation on the importing of plants can mean a delay of several months while the irises are put through quarantine, and often plants rot in the damp warehouses or get sick because they are constantly being sprayed. Foreign hybridizers also have to pay for a phytosanitary certificate, and they often have to pay for the quarantine of plants.

Suddenly I realized that many more than just two overseas hybridizers were in need of help in getting some new irises. I also realized from the letters that by making a deal with overseas hybridizers, I would have all the components of a successful hybridizing program, including the land I needed to grow thousands of seedlings. I sat right down and typed off letters to about two dozen foreign hybridizers whom I knew or had heard of from reading about their work in iris bulletins. I asked if they would be willing to grow seedlings from seeds I would send them, pick out the best, and send me back reselects to grow here. That was the beginning of what developed into an international iris hybridizing network devoted to making advances in cultivated forms of irises and promoting them worldwide.

Many of the hybridizers responded positively and suggested names of others who they thought would be interested. Soon I had written to well over 200 people, and altogether about six dozen responded favorably. So that all hybridizers would have an incentive to get their share of the work done, it was decided that any profits from all of the seedlings which were jointly made would be split 50/50. This profit motive is in addition to the incentive that they have to grow them because they are free to use the seedlings in making their own crosses, which hopefully will put them on an equal footing with American hybridizers.

The arrangement is that I send seed, pollen, and plants, and they grow the seedlings and send the best seedlings back to me for introduction. The choice of what plants are to be crossed is mostly my responsibility, but suggestions from them are discussed and tried if the plants or pollen are available to me. The hybridizers will be keeping a piece of whatever varieties they want to be used in their own hybridizing and are free to sell increase in their countries to help promote irises worldwide. I also agreed to act as a method of distribution for any irises they wanted to introduce which weren't from the joint program. Another agreement most of them made was to open their gardens during bloom time and invite friends, neighbors, and garden clubs over to see the irises in an effort to get them interested in growing irises.

To help the hybridizers get modern varieties which they could work with in the future, I will be shipping many irises to overseas hybridizers at no cost to them except for the phytosanitary certificate and the postage. In this way, they will be able to get modern varieties for so much less than they ever have been able to before that they no longer have to depend on the commercial growers to send them irises.

To help them keep up with the hybridizers here in the United States and to increase the number of plants suitable for hybridizing, this year I sent many

anthers of pollen of the most recent varieties overseas to cross with the varieties that they do have. This should help stir up the gene pool of their own seedlings and bring them somewhat closer to American standards.

Also, the other easy, low cost method of getting them caught up is sending seeds. Since I have very limited space and time to take care of seedlings, I decided to send nearly all of my seeds overseas. To ensure that all of the hybridizers got as many seeds as they could handle, I had to send over 10,000 seeds overseas. Producing that many seeds wasn't easy because I was the only person doing the crossing, labeling, recordkeeping, relabeling, packing, and shipping. Additionally, the task took a great deal of planning because I was trying to produce quality seedlings and not just quantity. To do this, I had to make sure that two plants that I was crossing didn't both have the same faults such as weak stalks, not enough buds, etc. I tried my best to make sure that the weakness of one parent was matched with a strength in the other parent. This year I doubled the seed production to just over 20,000, which by a slight margin probably makes me the largest producer of iris seed in the world. Nearly all of these seeds will be going overseas.

I spent many, many hours before bloom season writing down possible crosses that I could make. Oftentimes these plans had to be changed because one variety didn't produce any pollen, wouldn't bloom, or I would find out that a plant was sterile. In some cases, plants bloomed weeks apart and since there was no time to store the pollen, I would have to use the pollen on something else. Another change in plans was due to the fact that a few varieties bloomed for the first time and put on such a show that I had to work them into my crosses.

The gene stock being used is almost all iris varieties which have been introduced in the past five years, the exception to this being species irises or irises which had certain characteristics which we want to introduce into a more modern form. The use of species irises is experimental at this time as the idea is not practiced by most other hybridizers, and we will be pioneering the idea of crossing species with modern varieties on such a large scale.

The goals of this network include creating a true black and true red iris, finding and developing new colors and color patterns, and getting horned, spooned, and flounced irises—commonly called Space Ager iris—into modern, attractive forms. Although other hybridizers are also working on those goals, not many of them have the advantage of space, modern varieties, enough people to go through the seedlings, and a means of distributing a good iris widely—this seems to be one of the few instances where the combination of those four things has existed in iris hybridizing.

Due to the fact that irises normally take two years to bloom, the best indication of how well this network is going to work will come in 1991 when approximately 10,000 seedlings will bloom from seed sent in 1989. What's incredible to me is that the numbers of seedlings will be growing by leaps and bounds even beyond the numbers of seeds that I'm sending. Each of the six dozen hybridizers will be intercrossing the seedlings and crossing them with their own seedlings and back to named varieties. This will create thousands

more seedlings, and they, in turn, will create thousands more. I'll be keeping up the export of 20,000 seeds a year, as well. That means that 40,000 of *my* seedlings will probably be growing overseas in any one year—about equal to what Schreiners has. Since each of the six dozen hybridizers will be making hundreds of crosses with each generation of seedlings, however, the network will surely surpass the 100,000 seedlings a year mark within two years, and the 200,000 mark within five years. Can you imagine the impact that being able to raise 200,000 seedlings a year will make? Think of all the possibilities in a seedling patch with ten times as many seedlings as Schreiners have!!!

The only problem which is expected at this time is the possibility that the iris seedlings won't survive the cold weather of some countries. Since most of the modern iris hybrids are grown and hybridized in California and Oregon, the weather is mild enough to allow seedlings which would die in colder climates to survive and produce offspring. Since many of the irises used in the program are descended from plants which have been grown and hybridized in mild climates, it's a concern that these weak traits might be present genetically in the seeds and seedlings sent overseas. The flip side to this is that all irises which will be introduced from these crosses will be able to survive cold temperatures and snow. It has been a major complaint of the many iris growers in the eastern United States that irises aren't hardy enough to endure cold weather and snow. All of these irises will have had to endure those conditions for two or more years, thus practically ensuring that they will stand up to almost anything mother nature can throw at them in the United States.

Most bearded species irises are from Europe, and it's hoped that by incorporating species irises into the breeding program, they will provide increased hardiness in the long run. The problem with species irises is that they don't have the more recent varieties, and it will take quite some time to breed the faults out of the resulting seedlings. It's also conceivable that species irises can contribute new colors and color patterns when crossed with the modern hybrids because there are many more possible gene combinations now than there were in the past. Every once in a while, a species has another trait which would be valuable in a modern iris. The main species that will be used by the network is I. reichenbachii due to the fact that it has a tendency to produce seedlings which have more than one flower per socket. That means that there is a possibility of increasing the number of flowers per stalk and thus the length of the blooming of a particular plant. The other species will include I. pumila and various aril species.

Another reason to use species in hybridizing is that many of the species are rare and some are never found in cultivation due to the isolated locations in which they are found or growing conditions which are tough to match in cultivation. Oftentimes the few pieces of the plant which are in cultivation are in the hands of hybridizers and thus it's left up to them to preserve the species. Since such plants are often so hard to grow in cultivation, sometimes the only way to save the plant is by salvaging whatever gene potential it has. This may not be as important in the future due to the fact that several hybridizers are

now planning to have rare species tissue cultured so that there will be a greater chance that the species will survive at least in cultivation. At the moment however, the network hopes to get pollen of rare species and try to save some of the genes by crossing them with hardier varieties.

Embryo culturing is another area the network will be pursuing on a very small scale to see if it would significantly lessen the time before the iris seedlings bloom. This method will most likely be used almost exclusively with the arilbred crosses and wide crosses between species and modern cultivars. It might also be used with TBs, however, if it will decrease the amount of time from seed to flowering plant and is financially feasible. This method might have to be used by the network if we are to advance irises to the point which we would like because several of our goals will take years to complete and using embryo culturing would help reduce the time involved.

One of the most exciting things about this network is that it allows a free exchange of ideas and information back and forth between the U.S. and other countries. There are dozens of ideas I've gained from reading the letters from the overseas hybridizers, which will no doubt form the foundation of future articles for iris bulletins and their ideas will no doubt change the way I grow my irises. A possibility which has been tossed around recently is trying to organize an international iris society. This society would connect hybridizers and growers the world over and could serve as a means though which plants (both species and named cultivars), pollen, and seeds could be exchanged. Who knows, maybe it will be a reality some day, along with some of the other ideas the network's members have been dreaming up.

# 1991 SYMPOSIUM

1990 -	1991	Votes	Variety REVERIY SILLS	<b>Hybridizer</b> B Hager	Year	Season	Height	Color
- c	<b>–</b> c	040	DEVELLE SILES	D. Hagel	5 L	- ≥ L	) (	X 100 1
ກ	7	/60	VAINIT	Б. падег	ი/	<u>ر</u> ا	20	¥id
5	က	652	TITAN'S GLORY	Schreiners	, 18	E-M	37"	dark violet
4	4	561	STEPPING OUT	Schreiners	,64	M-L	38″	white, blue violet plicata
9	2	220	MARY FRANCES	L. Gaulter	73	≥	38″	blue-orchid
တ	9	531	JESSE'S SONG	B. Williamson	,83	≥	36″	white, violet plicata
10	7	520	VICTORIA FALLS	Schreiners	77,	급	40″	blue, white fall spot
7	ω	512	LACED COTTON	Schreiners	8	M-L	34"	white
∞	6	496	EDITH WOLFORD	B. Hager	,86	≥	40″	yellow/violet
2	10	480	SONG OF NORWAY	W. Luihn	73	M-L	38″	powder blue, blue beards
19	Ξ	467	DUSKY CHALLENGER	Schreiners	,86	M-L	39"	dark purple
=	12	450	GOING MY WAY	J. Gibson	'72	≥	37"	white, blue violet plicata
13	13	416	SUPERSTITION	Schreiners	77,	≥	36″	maroon black
12	14	415	COPPER CLASSIC	E. Roderick	,75	_	30″	burnt orange
14	15	406	LADY FRIEND	J. Ghio	'81	VE-E	38″	garnet red
17	16	393	MULLED WINE	K. Keppel	,82		36″	raspberry burgundy
15	17	363	MYSTIQUE	J. Ghio	,75	<u>ب</u>	36″	light blue/blue purple
	8	362*	SILVERADO	Schreiners	,87	≥	38″	plue
18	19	337	JOYCE TERRY	T. Muhlestein	,74	M-L	38″	yellow/white edged yellow
16	20	324	BRIDE'S HALO	H. Mohr	,73	급	36″	white, edged yellow
20	21	306	RINGO	G. Shoop	,79	∑	36"	white/grape, edged white
34	22	588	RUFFLED BALLET	E. Roderick	,75	M-L	30″	blue white/medium blue
32	23	284	BREAKERS	Schreiners	98,	Σ	37"	blue
21	24	280	KILT LILT	J. Gibson	1,70	E-M	40″	tan gold/maroon, white plica
09	52	274	ANNA BELLE BABSON	B. Hager	,82	Σ	36″	pink

yellow, veined red brown lavander/rose violet rose orchid apricot, red violet plicata soft vellow, violet borns	blue-lilac white	inac/ourgurluy lavender orchid dark violet blue	pale blue, darker in heart buff pink	white, tangerine beard	yellow/maroon brown mulberry lavender blend	blue white/white violet plicata	medium blue	cream/white, edged gold white	yellow/white edged yellow	orange	It. blue, near black beard	lemon yellow	red black	blue	cadmium orange	white & violet bitone plicata	violet black	pink
29" 35" 34"	, ag gg gg 3 ag ag gg	32" 32"	38″ 36″	41"	32" 32"	34"	38	නී ශී	36"	37"	32″	32″	36″	36"	36"	34"	36″	31"
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D. C. Anderson Schreiners Schreiners J. Gibson M. Oshorne	J. Ghio B. Hager	Schreiners Schreiners	J. Ghio O. Brown	Schreiners	I. Berndt L. Gaulter	D. Niswonger	S. Babson	Schreiners S. Buttrick	Mrs. H. Kuntz	W. Maryott	S. Innerst	N. Rudolph	G. Plough	Schreiners	G. Plough	K. Keppel	W. Luihn	N. Rudolph
DAZZLING GOLD GAY PARASOL LORILEE QUEEN IN CALICO	BUBBLING OVER LEDA'S LOVER	GRAND WALTZ NAVY STRUT	OLYMPIAD QUEEN OF HEARTS	CHRISTMAS TIME	MICHIGAN PRIDE PERSIAN BERRY	<b>EVERYTHING PLUS</b>	SHIPSHAPE	EASTERTIME CUP RACE	DEBBY RAIRDON	HINDENBURG	CODICIL	LEMON MIST	STUDY IN BLACK	TIDE'S IN	SON OF STAR	THEATRE	DUSKY DANCER	PINK TAFFETA
268 262 261 258 258	228 226 226	221 221 215	213	212	212	205	202	202	200	199	198	197	193	191	190	190	190	189
27 53 53 53 53 53 53 53 53 53 53 53 53 53	3 5 3 3 8	34 35	36	37	% 40	41	42	43 43	45	46	47	48	49	20	51	51	51	54
23 23 29 29	2 2 8	23 23 23	31	38	59 59	36	40	88 88	51	34	93	53	52	56	37	20	54	46

layender pink/grane wine	red black	pink/red violet	light blue	cranberry violet	white	pale blue, blue beard	salmon rose, magenta plicata	golden yellow	rose pink/wine purple	blue white/blue violet	red orange	purple	chartreuse/gold olive green	off white/blue, white plicata	warm white/medium pink	white/light blue	peach/peach, white center	buff pink, ivory in falls	medium blue	white	golden yellow	dark blue	light blue	white	yellow	red purple	apricot	plue
36"	34″	36″	38″	36″	38″	38″	38″	34"	35"	38″	37"	40″	36″	34"	36″	42"	35"	34"	37"	30″	37"	34″	40″	37"	35"	36″	36″	36″
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99,	7,8	,84	99,	,76	177	'85	,75	,78	,63	171	,87	,80	69,	,76	,82	,72	, 18	69,	,84	,84	,79	,74	,53	,63	,80	83	,86	171
G. Shoon	D. Meek	B. Blyth/K. Keppel	K. Keppel	Schreiners	Schreiners	W. Luihn	J. Gibson	Schreiners	D. Hall	E. Tams	W. Maryott	Schreiners	C. DeForest	D. C. Nearpass	H. Hamblen	D. C. Nearpass	Schreiners	O. Brown	Schreiners	L. Zurbrigg	Schreiners	J. Marsh	Schreiners	O. Brown	K. Keppel	M. Hamblen	Schreiners	Schreiners
I ATIN I OVEB	CHERRY SMOKE	TOMORROW'S CHILD	BABBLING BROOK	CRANBERRY ICE	LACY SNOWFLAKE	CHICO MAID	RANCHO ROSE	GOLD GALORE	WINE AND ROSES	DREAM LOVER	OKTOBERFEST	MASTER TOUCH	BAYBERRY CANDLE	SPINNING WHEEL	INIFNITE GRACE	DOVER BEACH	PIPING HOT	BUFFY	PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE	IMMORTALITY	TUT'S GOLD	FIVE STAR ADMIRAL	BLUE SAPPHIRE	WINTER OLYMPICS	CATALYST	EXTRAVAGANT	APHRODESIAC	SAPPHIRE HILLS
187	187	187	184	184	184	180	178	175	174	174	170*	169*	168	166	166	166	164	160	157	157	154	152	151	151	150	148	148	144
55	22	55	58	58	58	61	62	63	64	64	99	29	89	69	69	69	72	73	74	74	9/	77	78	78	80	81	81	83
45	28 2	29	42	43	64	73	48	62	49	89			74	09	99	72	46	89	89	95	17	8	82	98	64	82		62

dusty rose	lemon yellow	yellow/white yellow	peach pink	pink/apricot	lavander/red	dark violet, white fall spot	pink	amethyst orchid	smoky pink/violet blue	cream/light yellow	pink/amethyst violet	butterscotch/wine red	apricot, white, violet	violet blue	plue	rosy blue/white-edged rose-lilac
40″	36"	38″	33″	33"	34"	36"	34"	35"	36"	36"	35"	30″	32"	36"	37"	35"
చ	≥	≥	M-L	≥	M-L	E-M	E-M	≥	M-L	E-M	E-M	M-L	댐	≥	E-M	E-M
77'	.08	.83	,80	,87	98,	175	,85	.28	,84	,82	177	.08	181	,81	,87	,86
J. Ghio	N. Sexton	J. Gatty	J. Gatty	D. Niswonger	H. Nichols	G. Plough	J. Ghio	Schreiners	M. Hamblen	Schreiners	B. Hamner	L. Peterson	M. Hamblen	M. Hamblen	Schreiners	Schreiners
ENTOURAGE	NEW MOON	PRECIOUS MOMENTS	PARADISE	CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE	LATIN HIDEAWAY	EXOTIC STAR	DESIGNER GOWN	AMETHYST FLAME	KAREN	WEDDING CANDLES	HEATHER BLUSH	GALA MADRID	CAPRICIOUS	MON	ALTRUIST	EAGLE'S FLIGHT
144	144	144	143	142	142	141	138	138	136	135	133	131	125	124	124	123
83	83	83	87	88	88	8	91	91	93	94	95	96	97	88	88	100
89	74		88			80	96	66		06	78	79	91	82		

Runners-up: 122: Gigolo, Brandy, Skating Party

120. Temple Gold, Spectacular Bid

118: Sweet Musette, Cranberry Crush, Orange Slices

114: Broadway, Orange Star.

New to the Symposium: Aphrodesiac, Altruist, Eagle's Flight, Champagne Elegance, Karen, Latin Hideaway, Master Touch, Oktoberfest, Precious Moments, Silverado.

They Replace the Following: Well Endowed, St. Louis Blues, White Lightning, Pleated Gown, Gigolo, Brandy, Skating Party, Temple Gold, Broadway, Orange Star, Visual Arts, Fresno Calypso, Sheer Poetry.

# THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1990

CASH IN BANK, SEPTEMBE Operating Funds Restricted Funds	R 30, 1989	52,051 115,045	167,096	
INCOME, 10-1-89 thru 9-30- EXPENSE, 10-1-89 thru 9-30			156,128 147,897	175,327
CASH IN BANK, SEPTEMBE Operating Funds Restricted Funds	R 30, 1990		44,836 130,491	<u>175,327</u>
ricotricted rarias	INCOME	=	100, 101	170,027
Membership Dues	IIVOOIVIE	-	81,081	
Bulletin Advertising Back Issues Other Registrations	15,261 1,337 – 223	16,375 3,985	ŕ	
Sales     AIS Publications     Other Books & Mdse. Committees Sections Dues Gifts Earned Interest Other	11,706 9,894	21,600 10,763 6,367 2,593 12,997 367	<u>156,128</u>	
	EXPENS	E		
Bulletin Secretary Membership Secretary Recording Secretary Registrar		60,956 1.321 16,120 350 2,466		
Sales Director AIS Publications Other Books & Mdse. General Expense Other Officers Committees RVP Expense Section Dues Accounting & Insurance Other	5,587 7,204 1,084	13,875 675 25,523 1,275 6,359 7,164 11,813	<u>147,897</u>	
Authorized Salaried Personn Advertising Editor Editor Membership Secretary Registrar-Recorder	el 3,000 3,000 6,000 3,000			

	NAGEMENT AND CIRCULA U.S.C. 3685)	TION
1A. Title of Publication	1B. PUBLICATION NO.	2. Date of Filing
Bulletin of the American Iris Society	0 7 4 7 4 1	7 2 1 October 1990
3. Frequency of Issue	3A. No. of Issues Published	3B. Annual Subscription Price
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7414 East 60th. Street, Tulsa, Tulsa, Ok 7414	5-7703	
5. Complete Mailing Address of the Headquarters of General Business Offices		
7414 East 60th. Street, Tulsa OK 74145-7703		
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The American Iris Society, 7414 East 60th. St	reet, Tulsa, OK 74145-77	03
Editor (Name and Complete Mailing Address)		
Ronald Mullin, Rt. 3, Box 84, Pawnee, OK 7405	3	
Managing Editor (Name and Complete Mailing Address)		
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Full Name	Complete Mail	ng Address
The American Iris Society	7414 East 60th. Street,	Tulsa, OK 74145-7703
No stockholdersdues paying members only		
B. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or H	olding 1 Percent or More of Total Amou	nt of Bonds, Mortgages or Other
Securities (If there are none, so state)	0 1 10 -11	A.11
Full Name None	Complete Maili	ng Address
	(0)((1) (1) (1)	
For Completion by Nonprofit Organizations Authorized To Mail at Special F     The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the ex		oses (Check one)
The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the ex	empt status for Federal income tax purp	
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The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the extension of the e	empt status for Federal income tax purp  (If changed, pu change with thi  Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	blisher must submit explanation of s statement.)  Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
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The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the extent of the control o	empt status for Federal income tax purp  (If changed, puchange with thi  Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months  8,163	blisher must submit explanation of s statement.)  Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date  8,859
The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the experience of the control of the contr	empt status for Federal income tax purp  (If changed, puchange with this  Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months  8,163	blisher must submit explanation of statement.)  Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date  8,859
The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the experience of the control of the contr	empt status for Federal income tax purp  (If changed, purchange with this  Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months  8,163  6,741	blisher must submit explanation of statement.)  Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date  8,859  7,152
The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the extent of the control o	empt status for Federal income tax purp  (If changed, puchange with this  Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months  8,163  6,741  6,741  47	blisher must submit explanation of statement.)  Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date  8.859  7,152  7,152  52  7,204
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(1)    X   Has Not Changed During   Has Changed During   Preceding 12 Months     10.   Extent and Nature of Circulation (See instructions on reverse side)     A. Total No. Copies (Net Press Run)     B. Paid and/or Requested Circulation   1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales     2. Mail Subscription (Paid and/or requested)     C. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum or 10B1 and 10B2)     D. Free Distribution by Mail, Carrier or Other Means Samples, Complimentary, and Other Free Copies     E. Total Distribution (Sum of C and D)     F. Copies Not Distributed	empt status for Federal income tax purp  (If changed, purchange with this  Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months  8,163  6,741  6,741  47  6,788	blisher must submit explanation statement.)  Actual No. Copies of Singl Published Nearest to Filing 8,859  7,152  7,152  52  7,204

PS Form 3526, Feb. 1989

(See instructions on reverse)

## The American Iris Society Judges 1991

The letter preceding the judge's name designates the type of judge; (A)—Apprentice: (G)Fully Accredited; (M)—Master; and (E)—Emeritus. An asterisk (\*) denotes the region's RVP.

REGI	ON 1
G	Ronald Burnham
G	Lucy G. Burton
G	John H. Burton, II
Α	L. L. Doucette
Α	Mrs. L. L. Doucette
G	Chandler Fulton
G	Elaine Fulton
AM	Frederick W. Gadd
AM	Mrs. Frederick W. Gadd
RM	John E. Goett
G	Connie M. Hall
G	Dr. Warren C. Hazelton
G	Mrs. Warren C. Hazelton
Α	Richard Kiyomoto
G	Walter Kotyk
G	Phylis A. Malec
G	Lynn F. Markham
E	Dr. Currier McEwen
RM	Bernard W. McLaughlin
AM	Marilyn R. Noyes Mollicone
AM	Russell B. Moors
G	Mrs. Russell B. Moors
G*	Mrs. Maurice B. Pope, Jr.
G	Mrs. Keith Roberts
RM	Clayton H. Sacks
Α	Robert H. Sawyer
G	Mrs. David Schmieder
G	Marian H. Schmuhl
AM	Mrs. Carl G. Schulz
AM	Robert Sobek
RM	Mrs. Charles I. Stephenson
AM	Shirley A. Varmette
AM	Kenneth M. Waite
AM	Mrs. Kenneth M. Waite
E	Mrs. F. W. Warburton
RM	James R. Welch
Α	Deborah Wheeler
G	Edward W. White
G	John W. White
Α	Rebecca K. Wong
G	Peter J. Young

#### **REGION 2**

G	David Baehre
G	Mrs. James G. Burke
G	James G. Burke
Α	Francis Edmundson
RM	Mary P. Engel
G	Maria Gerbracht
AM	James Gristwood

AM	Mrs. James Gristwood
G	Kathleen Guest
AM	Jane I. Hall
G*	Carl M. O'Shea
E	William H. Peck
G	Frances M. Regan
G	Wendy K. Roller
Α	Dr. Carolyn Schaffner
Α	Helen Schueller
AM	G. M. Schifferli
AM	Mrs. Granger S. Smith
RM	Alfred T. Wirz

REG	REGION 3		
G	Walter C. Betzold		
AM	Mrs. William E. Chambers		
AM	W. H. Clough		
G	George W. Gerhardt		
G	Harold L. Griffie		
E	William T. Hirsch		
AM*	Sterling U. Innerst		
Α	Theresa Jewel		
AM	Mrs. Grant Kegerise		
AM	Mrs. R. P. Kegerise		
G	Ellwood Maltman		
G	Dorothea M. Marquart		
Α	Mrs. Arthur F. Martin		
AM	Mrs. Steven Molchan		
Α	Bettie Nutter		
Α	Donald E. Nutter		
G	Irene Otte		
G	O. M. Otte		
Α	June Roop		
RM	Paul R. Smith		
AM	Mrs. Guy E. Stevens		
AM	Ophelia F. Straw		
G	Elizabeth Unruh		
G	Larry Westfall		
REG	REGION 4		

REGION 4		
G	Alice Bouldin	
AM	B. J. Brown	
AM	Mrs. B. J. Brown	
G	Mrs. David Cline	
G	Mrs. Keith K. Cooper	
AM	Mrs. Charles M. Cox	
G	Geraldine S. Davis	
G	Mrs. Joseph P. Dufresne	
AM	E. Roy Epperson	
AM	Mrs. Miles P. Farrar	
AM	Mrs. Frank H. J. Figge	

G Ruth Filsinger G Glenn Grigg, Jr. G Mrs. Glenn Grigg, Jr. AM Charles L. Hare Mrs. Charles L. Hare **AM** Maynard E. Harp RM RM Mrs. Maynard E. Harp G Mrs. A. H. Hazzard G Walter Hoover G Mrs. Paul D. Kabler G Mrs. Troy Karriker

Victor R. Layman, II Α G M. B. Lowe Mrs. M. B. Lowe G G Clarence E. Mahan RM Mrs. Fred M. Miller G Diana Nicholls

RM Dr. Joseph B. Parker, Jr.

Polly K. Price G Α Richard Randall G Dr. A. W. Rice AM Mrs. A. W. Rice AM Richard Sparling G James D. Stadler AM E. G. Stephenson G Mrs. James H. Trent G Ruth E. Walker AM David G. Walsh

G\* Mrs. Andrew C. Warner

AM Dennis A. Wilkie E Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg

#### **REGION 5**

Alma P. Burgamy G AM Mrs. Wells E. Burton Mrs. C. C. Chapman RM G Carolee Clay RM James H. Duren Mrs. John S. Gaines G G Gwen Godwin G T. M. Godwin RM Mrs. John S. Harley Carolyn R. Hawkins G G Nina R. Hawkins G Mrs. Arvid Honkanen G Sara T. Hood G Cassie E. James

G James L. Jeffcoat G Peggy B. Jeffcoat G Andrea M. Johnson AM Mrs. Frank L. Johnson Mrs. Tommy R. Johnson G RM

Grady Kennedy RM Mrs. Grady Kennedy G Mrs. A. J. Kirby

G Rev. Everette L. Lineberger

AM David Mohr

G Mrs. Edward L. Paquet

AM Jean Quick RM M. B. Satterfield G Wayne C. Smith, Jr. G Mrs. Wayne C. Smith, Jr. AM Mrs. R. G. Stockton

G Mrs. Robert L. Terpening G Robert L. Terpening AM Harry Turner G Joe Scott Watson AM\* Mrs. A. D. Wilder G Fredericka R. Wilson

G John W. Wood G

C. E. Yearwood

#### **REGION 6**

RM Mrs. Carl F. Bacon G Robert A. Bauer G Otho Boone Mrs. Otho Boone AM Mrs. Russell Bruno G G Russell Bruno G Ruby A. Clark Α Ann A. Cline G John A. Coble

AM Mrs. Harold E. Cooper AM James A. Copeland AM Mrs. James A. Copeland

G Sue Copeland Mrs. Albert DeHaan G AM Lee Eberhardt G Richard B. Ferris AM Mrs. Albert Fillmore James J. Foreman G AM Emma Hobbs

Α Judith M. Hollingworth G R. M. Hollingworth G Wilford James Α Rae J. Johnson Α Jason Leader Α Patricia A. Leader G Carl Leisure AM Robert A. Mallory Α Virginia Maynard AM Lynda Miller

G Mrs. Ronald F. Miller

AM Roger Miller G Kathy J. Moore **AM** Mrs. Robert E. Moore G Angela Morgan G\* Carol Morgan G Paul Morgan

G Marlyn N. O. Nelson G Mrs. Jack E. Norrick G Jack E. Norrick AM C. D. Overholser AM Mrs. C. D. Overholser G Mrs. M. D. Padrick AM Mrs. Z. R. Prentiss AM Mrs. D. Olen Rawdon AM Pauline Reindl

Mrs. William T. Rhodes AM RM John D. Rusk, Jr. AM Mrs. Harold Slessman RM Dr. Raymond G. Smith AM Mrs. C. E. Soules E Dr. Harold L. Stahly G Mrs. Robert Stallcop

G Marjorie Starkey AM Fred L. Taylor RM Raymond Thomas AM Eugene D. Tremmel Α Mrs. Norbert B. Vaught G Joan H. Verwilst AM Leland Mr. Welsh AM Anthony Willott AM Mrs. Anthony Willott G **Doris Winton** G Debby Zook

#### **REGION 7**

Julie Allen G Rodney A. Adams G Sue Ann Barnes G James M. Bingham G Mrs. Charles Bless AM Mrs. Stanley Boren Eleanor M. Boyson G RM Franklin P. Brewer

Mrs. Edward T. Browne, Jr. G

G James R. Browne G Larry R. Browning G Mrs. Larry R. Browning G J. L. Christopher Α Catherine Church Α Eugene Church G J. R. Collins G Mrs. J. R. Collins Robert H. Cosby, Jr. G AM Mrs. Kearney Crick G Albert C. Dierckes G Mrs. Albert C. Dierckes RM Dr. Frank B. Galyon

Sue M. Garrett G G Jerry D. Gifford RM Mrs. Edgar Green Mrs. Lawrence E. Hall G

AM Lois Hill

Mrs. Henry Hudson Α AM Doyle B. Inman Mrs. Lee A. Irwin G G Frances Jenkins AM Glenna Johnson AM **Lucy Carrington Jones** G\* Mrs. Donald R. King G Thelma Lamb

Α Trudy N. Lowe AM Mrs. M. A. Luna G Dr. Doris Middleton G Alice Middleton AM Raymond N. Miller Mrs. Raymond N. Miller RM Dr. Hubert C. Mohr

Bertha M. Orr RM Margie C. Parham G Jerry Phillips G Mrs. Jerry Phillips G June F. Richards G Gary D. Sides AM George D. Slade

G Mrs. George D. Slade G Willa Swack AM Mrs. Frank Tyree G Maynard D. VanHorn G Mrs. Maynard D. VanHorn G William W. Vines E Adolph J. Vogt RM Robert C. Walsh RM Mrs. Robert C. Walsh AM Mrs. W. C. Wilder AM Phillip A. Williams

Mrs. Elmer Winfree

#### **REGION 8**

G

Mrs. Peter Baukus AM AM Melvin Bausch AM Mrs. Melvin Bausch RM A. G. Blodgett **RM** Mrs. A. G. Blodgett G Janice M. Broich G Howard Brookins G Ainee H. Busse RM Walter Carlock G Joan Cooper G

Mrs. R. W. Dalgaard G W. E. Doehne Α M. Lynn Fell G Dr. Norman Frisch G Mrs. Duwayne Giefer Α Ben H. Gowen G Mrs. David Hempel Α Russell A. Hintz AM Frederick C. Johnke Royal O. Johnson AM AM Evelyn D. Johnson G Edwin W. Kelsey G\* Dr. Donald Koza

RM Alice Foss Kronebusch W. A. Machulak AM Mrs. W. W. Machulak AM AM Lovone R. Ney Clarence H. Protzmann AM

Α Glenn Radtke Ε Wilbert G. Sindt Mrs. Wilbert G. Sindt AM RM Mildred Stover AM Julius Wadekamper

Jack Worel G

**REGION 9** AM Donovan Albers G Margaret G. Bensen RM Marilyn Redenbo Beyes G Francis Brenner Ε Harley E. Briscoe Brian Clough G G Orville Dickhaut G Mrs. Orville Dickhaut RM Mary E. Drake AM Marge Hagberg AM Ethel A. Hollingsworth

RM G. E. Hubbard

AM Karl F. Jensen Mrs. Karl F. Jensen AM Roy B. Johnson Α Beverly Johnson Α G Dolores M. Kassly AM Rita Kinsella Susan Kinsella G John R. Knaus G G Julia Kupstis G G George S Poole

Mrs. Roland J. Meyer AM Marvin A. Shoup C. J. Simon **AM** G Mrs. C. J. Simon Cathy Simon G Nancy Simon G Leslie Jean Smith A Sylvia W. Smith Α G Florence E. Stout AM John M. Thompson D. Steve Varner AM RM George P. Watts Jerry Wilhoit G

Melody Wilhoit

### **REGION 10**

G\*

AM Aline Arceneaux E C. W. Arny, Jr. AM Mrs. C. W. Arny, Jr. Mrs. Walter Colquitt E G Mrs. James J. Deegan Albert W. Ernst G\* Charles J. Fritchie G AM Marvin A. Granger Timothy P. Hebert Α Α Mrs. Timothy P. Hebert AM Mrs. Erwin Jordan AM Dr. Bernard H. McSparrin AM Joseph K. Mertzweiller **AM** Mrs. Ira S. Nelson Ed Ostheimer G AM Mrs. Ed Ostheimer

Mrs. Hubert Rena

### **REGION 11**

G.

Eileen Allison AM G Ken Baier G\* Rose Mary Baier G Donna Bowers G Jerry C. Bowers Donald Chadd RM G Ronald A. Dunn G R. W. Gray G Mrs. R. W. Gray **AM** Robert L. Jensen **AM** Mrs. Alfred Kramer G Bonnie Smith AM Mrs. Lowell A. Storm Α Alverta Symes Α Elinor Utech RM Mrs. W. R. Walters

### **REGION 12**

Hyram L. Ames MA AM D. C. Anderson Tony Ballard AM RM Mrs. Townley Brian G Randy D. Brown AM Mrs. David E. Burton AM Mrs. Willard Done AM Charlotte T. Easter E Mrs. James R. Hamblen Delbert Johnson Α AM Mildred Osauthorpe Suzanne Parry Cathy Reed Robert W. Reeder

G Suzanne Parry
 G Cathy Reed
 G Robert W. Reeder
 G\* Paul J. Smith
 AM Herbert J. Spence
 AM Mrs. Merlin Tams
 G Deray Taylor
 G Candy Rene Thomas

RM Bion Tolman
G Dr. Alan F. Toronto
AM Keith H. Wagstaff
G Jeffrey L. Walters

### **REGION 13**

Thomas Abrego G G Ellen Abrego AM Patricia Adams Terry Aitken G G Barbara Aitken RM Foster M. Allen G Sigrid Asmus Irene Blanch G RM Donald J. Boen G Dr. Alan D. Brooks Е Mrs. Tom M. Brown Α Margaret Bruland Α Robert Bruland G Paula Budinger AM Eunice Jean Cass RM Merle Daling AM B. Leroy Davidson G

Joanne Mentz Derr G Alan Fort G K. Fort G\* Lyle Fort G Mrs. Lyle Fort G Debra Gillespie G Eldon J. Hale G Mrs. Eldon J. Hale AM Paul Harms G Fran Hawk G Ruth E. Jackson Bennett C. Jones Ε AM Evelyn V. Jones RM

RM Dr. Frederick R. Judy
G Charlotte Keasey
G George F. Lankow
RM Evelyn R. Lemire
G Mrs. Ted Lind

Α John W. Ludi Duane E. Meek AM AM Joyce Meek RM Austin Morgan Mrs. William E. Moritz G AM Roger R. Nelson Frank H. Nickell G Warren E. Noyes **AM** G Mrs. Lawrence Olsen **AM** Mrs. Herbert M. Parker AM Donald L. Peterson Fern E. Pilley RM AM Lorena M. Reed Gerald L. Richardson **AM AM** Jayne Ritchie G David Schreiner G Ray Schreiner Ε Robert Schreiner **AM** Doris E. Shinn George A. Shoop G Mrs. George A. Shoop AM David Silverberg AM Mrs. S. M. Sisley RM Robert F. Smiley G Marcia D. Smith AM Mrs. William F. Snell Mrs. Glen Suiter Ε RM Chet W. Tompkins RM Mrs. Lewis Trout Mrs. L. B. Williams G Ε Jean G. Witt

### **REGION 14**

Mrs. William Anning G AM Carl H. Boswell AM Mrs. Carl H. Boswell AM Robert Brown Florence C. Brown Α Α Stanley R. Cherniss G Stanley Coats G Mrs. Jack H. Cochran Mrs. Mark Condo AM AM Glenn F. Corlew RM Mrs. John Coscarelly G Larry R. Cowdery G Walter Dean AM Sidney P. DuBose AM Mrs. Robert L. Dunn G Mrs. Gustav R. Erickson

AM Frank Foster G John Garner Α Besse Garner **AM** Joseph A. Gatty Ε Larry A. Gaulter AM Joseph J. Ghio RM Jim Gibson E Ben R. Hager RM Mrs. Robert E. Haley

G Gigi Hall

AM Marilyn R. Harlow G Mrs. Eugene A. Harris G Merry L. Haveman

AM Evelyn Hayes AM Marilyn Holloway G Michael O. Howard G Berkeley Hunt G Barry Ivens Daniel Johnson George W. Johnson RM J. Nelson Jones E Keith Keppel Α Frederick J. Kerr G Richard Lauer Kitty Loberg AM Walter F. Luihn G William R. Maryott G Ed Matheny, III G Hal Mattos AM Mrs. Paul Maxim James P. McWhirter AM\* Le Roy Meininger Α AM Mrs. William Messick Jean Near AM Mrs. R. Nelson Nicholson

G

RM Roy L. Oliphant

AM Capt. M. C. Osborne Α Cloudia Owen Α William T. Owen G Fred C. Parvin Robert Primer G Evodia Primer G Lucille Ray **RM** G Colin Rigby

Alan D. Robbins G RM

Mrs. Arthur L. Romer Ε W. F. Scott, Jr.

Α Mrs. James Shelton G George H. Sutton G Margaret Sutton AM Mrs. Sven I. Thoolen Mrs. Arnold S. Todd G Carole Vossen Α G Mrs. W. G. Waters

Dr. John Weiler AM AM Edith P. Wheeler James Whitely G G Barbara Whitely AM Bryce Williamson AM Vernon Wood G Mary Ann Zurek

### **REGION 15**

Dr. Ray C. Allen Ε AM Polly Anderson G William E. Barr Mrs. William E. Barr AM G Irene Benton G C. S. Bostwick G **Bob Brooks** G Mary Bruner AM Mrs. Walter Bunker AM Mrs. N. R. Carrington Hazel E. Carson Α

AM Valera V. Chenoweth

G Richard W. Cherry G James McMillen G Mrs. Richard W. Cherry G John McMillen Janice Chesnik AM G\* Mrs. John McMillen J. C. Conklin G **REGION 17** AM Ralph Conrad Bonnie Brewer G Mrs. Ralph Conrad G G Anne Weatherly Cuthbert RM Mrs. Lester E. Brooks G Joel Dennison Cuthbert **AM** Mrs. Lawrence Burt G Mary Ann Cuthbert E Marie Caillet G Olen Joe Daugherty RM Dr. Jesse W. Collier Billie G. Corbell G Vicki Day G RM RM Mrs. Donald Dopke Mrs. Frank Courtney AM Duncan Eader **AM** Jim D. Coward **RM** Doris Foster G Arthur B. Cronin AM Mrs. Harry B. Frey AM Luella Danielson RM Ruth Goodrick RM Susie Davis AM W. J. Gunther RM Mrs. Martin Dean AM Mrs. Bernard Hamner G Wanda Gaines Dow Dr. Herbert C. Holk G В Mrs. Curtis B. Evans G Mrs. Herbert C. Holk AM Mrs. Doyle Gray Charles R. Hopson RM G Gordon Green RM Mary N. Hoskins G Hazel M. Haik Robert P. Hubley AM AM Mrs. Finley Herrington Debbie Humphreys G G Mrs. Therell J. Hodges RM Genevieve H. Jasper AM Mrs. Charles A. Howard AM Mildred R. Johnson G Dr. W. Clyde Ikins G James H. Jones G Ray M. John G Ardi Kary G\* Jim Keefe Ray Kary G G Sue Keefe AM Eleanor McCown AM Mrs. Vernon H. Keesee G RM Vern McCroskey Mrs. Harley L. King G Peggy McCroskey G Peggy Lamb G Lynn McIlwain RM Mrs. W. F. Lawhorn G RM W. D. Lee Gary Miller G Mrs. David Mogil RM Mrs. W. M. McGrath G Kenneth Mohr Ε Mrs. J. Arthur Nelson G Dr. Edward Murray G Mrs. Roy Nichols RM Mrs. Paul Newman RM M. W. Norton, Jr. E RM Mrs. Edward Owen Mrs. M. W. Norton, Jr. Dr. Jerome Paul G Ε Mrs. Stayton Nunn G Jeanne C. Plank G Joella R. Olson James Puckett G RM William K. Patton G Bill Rinehart RM Mrs. W. W. Popejoy AM G Beulah Robinson Mrs. W. B. Powell D. L. Shepard RM G Sam Reece G\* RM Mrs. D. L. Shepard Dorothy M. Riddler G Raymond H. Solomon E Mrs. C. C. Rockwell, Jr. G Mrs. Raymond H. Solomon G Patsy L. Rosen G Ralph Strane AM Capt. Otis R. Skinner, Jr. G Richard A. Tasco **AM** Mrs. Otis R. Skinner, Jr. **AM** Mrs. J. E. Tearington Α Keith Smith RM **AM** Mrs. J. W. Turner Frank L. Stephens Ε Marion R. Walker G Debra Strauss G Jack Weber RM Mrs. A. M. Tallmon G John Wight **RM** Mrs. John Wade G Mary Wilber **REGION 16** AM Mrs. N. W. Williams G E Harold R. Crawford Leon C. Wolford AM Mrs. Leon C. Wolford

G Mrs. Donald M. Fenner AM Donald V. Fritshaw AM Verna Laurin G

Daniel P. McMillen

**REGION 18** 

G Mrs. L. E. Anderson Α Alvin Apsher

G **AM** Mrs. August Bellagamba Mrs. Riley Probst E RM Mrs. George A. Bender Mrs. Richard V. Ramsey G RM Clifford W. Benson James Rasmussen Patricia Bitzer AM Helen E. Reynolds G G Vincent Bitzer G Mrs. Robert H. Robinson G Chester Blaylock AM Elvan E. Roderick Mrs. Elvan E. Roderick G G Roy Bohrer G RM Mrs. Harlan Rogers Mrs. Roy Bohrer Anita Schmidt AM G Mrs. Leo Boulanger G Dale E. Smith G Harry J. Boyd G Mrs. Dale E. Smith G Mrs. Harry J. Boyd G RM Von Smith W. F. Brown G Mrs. Von Smith G Faye Carpenter G Stephen P. Smith G Louie Chestnut RM Mrs. James Lee Chism G Susan H. Smith G AM\* Mrs. Meredith E. Christlieb Mrs. Harry E. Spence G Donald Delmez Mrs. Herman Stedman G G AM **Dolores Denney** Stephen Stevens G Marie C. Dienstbach Mrs. Stephen Stevens G G G Eric Tankesley-Clarke Ralph H. Dierkes G G Mrs. Ralph H. Dierkes Robert Tankesley-Clarke G Mrs. Edgar Dies RM Elmer H. Tiemann G Mrs. Julius Dutton RM Mrs. Robert Venjohn **AM** Floyd Dyer G Annette J. Vincent G Larry Ermey G C. L. Walz RM G Claude Evans George W. Warner Α G Frances Evans Mrs. Ben F. Winter G G Keith Fillmore Annabelle Wiseman RM C. L. Fondoble Α Mary Wyss RM Mrs. C. L. Fondoble **REGION 19** RM Mrs. C. T. Freidline Α James Fry AM Elizabeth Aulicky AM Lucy Fry **AM** Raymond J. Blicharz Norman Gossling AM **AM** Franklin Carr G Thomas Grim G Chun Fan G Mike Hargrove Α James P. Holmes AM C. Allen Harper AM Melvin Leavitt G Jim Hedgecock RM Mrs. Melvin Leavitt AM Calvin H. Helsley AM F. J. McAliece AM Annabel Hennrich AM Mrs. F. J. McAliece G Vince Italian AM Dr. Norman H. Noe AM Rev. Robert R. Jeffries G Mrs. Norman H. Noe Dale Johnson AM G C. B. Reeves, Jr. G G Alice Johnson Mrs. C. B. Reeves, Jr.

G

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G\* Nancy Szmuriga Ε Elizabeth A. Wood **REGION 20** G Duane W. Daily G Kayellen R. Daily G Mrs. Richard E. Doty Ε Dr. Jack R. Durrance A R. M. Eacker G Chris Fish G Catherine Long Gates G Dennis B. Gates AM Joseph H. Hoage G Jayme S. Irvin G Mrs. Morris James G Jenifer Jensen

Ellen Robertson

George Sproul

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RM

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Dan C. Judy

Audrey Judy

**Betty Langston** 

Mrs. Robert Mark

Mrs. R. L. McFall

Mrs. M. J. McHugh

Mrs. Russell Morgan

Mrs. James W. Morris

Anita O. Long

M. J. McHugh

Russell Morgan

James W. Morris

O. D. Niswonger

Katherine Perry

Robert Pries

Riley Probst

Mrs. Edwin W. Knight

Joan Kellar

Α	Annje C. Jensen
AM	Dr. Carl Jorgensen
G	John Knudtson
G	Jerilyn Knudtson
G	Roy G. Krug
AM	Harry B. Kuesel
G	Tim L. Kuesel
AM	Everett Long
G	Ray D. Lyons
AM	Thomas L. Magee
G	Mrs. M. R. McCarthy
G	Suzanne McCarthy
G	Michael W. McCarthy
G*	David G. Miller
G	Michael Moller
G	Nina Moller
G	Patricia Morgan
RM	Mrs. Tolbert E. Murphy
G	Viola Oliphant
Α	Robert J. Phillips, II
AM	Mrs. Dwane Quinn
G	Jess V. Quintana
G	Donald Roos
G	David E. Shannon
AM	Robert O. Sorensen
RM	E. E. Varnum
G	Suzanne Walter

Mildred Wasmundt

Warren Wiekhorst

Verona Wiekhorst

Mrs. Clyde W. Wooten

Col. Clyde W. Wooten

### **REGION 21**

G

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AM

RM

Mickey Anson Ardeth J. Bailey G Α Sally Bergei G Mrs. George Boardman G Marion Burleigh G Charles T. Claussen G Mrs. Charles T. Claussen AM James L. Ennenga G Allan G. Ensminger G Mary Ferguson G Lane Foulk G Vincent Fox G Mrs. Vincent Fox RM Mrs. Arnold Freudenburg Α Richard H. Freund G Anne M. Gaddie G Gene Gaddie RM Mrs. John A. Graff RM Hazel Grapes AM Larry Harder RM Mrs. A. J. Harvey G Dr. Charles Haynes

Charles C. Hemmer

Michael Hemmer

Patrick R. Hemmer

Lester Hildenbrandt

Mrs. Leon N. Hockett

Mrs. Charles C. Hemmer

G Jay Hummel Jim Hummel G G Vera Hummel G Marjorie Jansen G Mrs. Robert Jensen G Dorothy M. Johnson G Elva Kailey Eugene J. Kalkwarf G G Richard Kohout G Carolyn D. Lingenfelter AM Barbara Mapes G Harold Marshall G Mrs. Harold Marshall AM Evangeline Martindale G Roger P. Mazur G Kay Nelson AM Mrs. N. S. Pederson G Donald R. Peterson G Mrs. Donald R. Peterson E Richard T. Pettijohn Calvin H. Reuter G G Rev. Orval Roach RM Mrs. C. V. Robertson G V. O. Sellers AM Kempton Settle G Mrs. Kempton Settle AM Fred E. Spahn G Tim Stanek G Lynn Stoll G Barrett Stoll G Thomas Tingley G Mrs. Thomas Tingley G\* Opal Wulf

### **REGION 22**

RM

AM

AM

G

Wiley Abshire

M. B. Bartley

Paul W. Black

Mrs. Michael Birkholtz

Α R. Dean Brand Α Mrs. R. Dean Brand G Lavera Burkett RM Richard C. Butler RM Oren Campbell Α Dorothy I. Cantwell Α Ray Cantwell AM C. A. Cromwell AM Mrs. C. Wayne Drumm AM Perry Dyer RM Mrs. Dan Edelman AM Mrs. Howard Estes Genevieve Followwill G RM W. G. Frass RM Mrs. R. L. Gilbert AM Mrs. James Gildea Paul W. Gossett G RM Una Hamilton Debbie Hassel Α Α Tim Hassel AM James Hawley AM Mrs. Alva J. Hickerson E Mrs. Robert C. Howard G J. H. Jamicson

G\* Mrs. J. H. Jamicson Helen Jones Α AM Dr. W. E. Jones AM Mrs. Charles E. Kenney Bea Leach G AM Virginia Mathews Betty Lou McMartin G AM Leonard J. Michel AM Richard E. Morgan Ronald Mullin Ε AM **Hooker Nichols** Cleo Palmer AM Perry L. Parrish Ε Mrs. Harold G. Plato RM Mrs. William M. Rhodes AM Bruce Richards G RM Arthur E. Rowe Henry C. Rowlan AM James W. Russell Α AM Joe Saia Dale Satterwhite G AM Marthella Shoemake **Ruth Simmons** Α AM Richard J. Sloan G Robertson V. Smith

AM Susie Smith Aline Smith G G Fred Smith RM Mrs. Cyrus Stanley L. D. Stayer AM AM Mrs. L. D. Stayer Philip Stonecipher G G Mrs. Philip Stonecipher G Inez Tunon

G Dana Wade
A Mrs. John A. Williams
G Alton C. Zimmerman

G Mrs. Alton C. Zimmerman

Mrs. Richard Bohannon

### **REGION 23**

RM

G W. A. Brown
AM Mrs. Milton J. Clauser
G Bill R. Coursey
RM Mrs. George L. Doolittle
G Maj. Philip S. Doonan
G Mrs. Philip S. Doonan
AM Mrs. Irby A. Downey
Cool Eiffort

G Dr. Cecil Eiffert
AM Mrs. Roger Figge
G Wilma Freidline
G\* Doug Goodnight
RM Mrs. Earl Gould
G David Ray Hooten
G Donna Hooten

AM Margaret R. Johnson
G Mrs. Douglas Latimer
AM Mrs. Bernard Lowenstein

G Mrs. James A. Mahoney
 RM J. E. McClintock
 RM Mrs. J. E. McClintock
 G Cindy H. Myers

G George A. NickelG Mrs. Therman C. Perkins

AM Mrs. L. E. Roberts
G Audrey C. Roe
AM Howard Shockey
G Mrs. Howard Shockey
AM Robert D. Steele
AM Mrs. Robert D. Steele
G Floyd Stopani

G Helen Stopani AM Mrs. Walter C. White AM Janice M. Wilson

AM Mrs. James R. Yocum

### **REGION 24**

John J. Adkins, Jr. G **AM** Mrs. B. W. Branumn G Carol Burch G James G. Burch G Betty Burch **AM** B. Howard Camp **AM** Mrs. B. Howard Camp G Margaret Connally G Mrs. Thomas F. Craig Α Evelyn Davenport G Marjorie W. Deaton Jane C. Desmond Α AM Dr. L. E. Fraser Mrs. Floyd Garner RM Kristen Gilliam G G\* T. A. Gilliam Dr. Marvin Hall RM G Clara Henderson Mrs. H. C. Hendricks AM Α Dennis Holmes

AM Mrs. Everett H. Hughes
AM Mrs. Hugh Johnston
AM Mrs. A. I. Kuykendall
G J. W. Kuykendall, Jr.
AM Mrs. J. W. Kuykendall, Jr.

AM Joe M. Langdon
AM Mrs. Joe M. Langdon
G Mrs. Jack H. Lucas
AM Nan Elizabeth Miles
G Dr. William L. Mitchell
G Mrs. William L. Mitchell

G Walter Moores
G Edith Mitchell Nevels
G Mrs. William O. Oats
AM Donald R. Saxton
AM Mrs. Donald R. Saxton
AM Sarah Scruggs
AM Herbert L. Sherrod

A M. L. Underwood AM Mrs. R. P. VanValkenburgh

### **OVERSEAS**

### **AUSTRALIA**

M John O. Baldwin
M Mrs. N. E. H. Caldwell
M Leslie J. Donnell
G Graeme Grosvenor

M Alan W. Johnson G Margaret Lee

M Dr. Gordon B. Loveridge

G Robert Raabe

BELGIUM

Koen Engelen

**ENGLAND** 

H. R. Jeffs G. H. Preston G M N. K. Scopes

FRANCE

Jean Cayeux G Dr. Jean Segui

**WEST GERMANY** 

Helen Von Stein-Zeppelin

G Rainer Zeh

ITALY

M Prof. Gian Luigi

**JAPAN** 

Akira Horinaka

### MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Summit Hotel, Dallas, Texas

November 2-4, 1990

The fall meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Iris Society was called to order at 8:00 PM, Nov. 2, 1990, by President Kenneth Waite. Present at this and subsequent sessions were: President Waite; Immediate Past President Rasmussen; Past President and Editor Mullin; Past President Waite; Immediate Past President Rasmussen; Past President and Editor Mullin; Past President Stahly; First Vice President Barr; Second Vice President Copeland; Secretary J. Stayer; Treasurer Corlew; Membership Secretary Harlow; Registrar and Advertising Editor Nelson; Publication Sales Director C.J. Lack; Directors Crick, Gates, Gristwood, Lineberger, W. Machulak, Niswonger and Rice-Waters; Committee Chairmen L. Fry and Harder; AlS Foundation Liaison Pettijohn; RVPs Wilder (5), Morgan (6), Christoper (7), Koza (8), Baier (11), Strane (15), Keefe (17) and Goodnight (23); Assistant RVP King (7); RVP Representatives W. Wiekhorst (20), Nichols (22) and Gilliam (24); Section Representatives M. Perkins (SIS), J. Fry (DIS) and V. Wiekhorst (HIPS); Iris Society of Dallas President B. Brewer and Vice President P. Lamb; and guests A. Waite (1), A. Machulak (8), Brown, Campbell, Hill, Howard, John, J. Kelley, S. Kelley, D. Lamb, Murphy, Rosen and Whitley (17), I. Rasmussen (18), Yost (20), K. Lack and L. Stayer (22), and T. Perkins (23). The president welcomed all guests and commented on voting procedures, inviting guest participation in discussion. Introductions followed.

ticipation in discussion. Introductions followed.

Waite then asked if there were additions or corrections to the minutes of the Omaha Board meeting as published in the October, 1990, *Bulletin*, No. 279. Gates, secretary pro tem for that meeting, noted a typographical error in the report of the Youth Chairman as published on page 97 ("he" was printed instead of "she"). Gates then stated her objection to the deletion of a portion of a paragraph from the text as she had written it, yet with her name still listed as the writer. The passage in question had to do with a discussion initiated by Williams concerning the American Airlines contract (page 99). President Waite took responsibility for the deletion, stating that no action was taken and that he felt that the remarks omitted were of the type which should not be included in the permanent record of that meeting. Recording secretary Barr stated that it had been the practice during her years of taking the minutes that the recording secretary should send copies of the first draft to the president, the secretary and the editor, and that working together, the four revised the text, before publication, to better reflect the substance of the meeting. Barr stated, also, with apologies, that because of personal problems during the summer, she had failed to get out a corrected copy to officers, directors, committee chairmen, RVPs, etc., and thus Gates had not been made aware of the change. There was discussion both for and against the omission. Niswonger moved that the minutes be accepted as published. Rasmussen seconded. The vote was taken by a show of hands. The motion carried.

The report of the election of directors, which would usually be given by Secretary Stayer, was read by President Waite, as Stayer was one of those listed on the slate. The report was from the accounting firm of Meyers Brothers & Adeletti, P.C. (Certified Public Accountants), Longmeadow Massachusetts, which had been retained to mail and count the ballots. ILS Business Services, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts, printed ballots and envelopes and prepared them for mailing. The report of the voting was as follows: Lillian Gristwood, 1581; Jeane Stayer, 1565; Everette Lineberger, 1518; Bennett Jones, 1475; Ramona Howard, 1069. Therefore, Gristwood, Stayer, Lineberger and Jones are duly elected and qualified as AIS Directors with terms expiring in 1993. The notarized report of the accounting firm will be entered in the AIS records as an appendix to the minutes of this

meeting

Waite reported no interim Board action. The Executive Committee had voted to approve the aforementioned accounting firm to supervise the mailing and counting of the ballots for the special election. Waite reported that the cost of the printing and mailing of the ballots was approximately \$3,200, with an additional cost of \$40 per hour for Meyers Brothers & Adeletti for accounting.

Secretary Stayer reported that she had received a note of thanks from Maureen Foster, who won the Silver Medal for the British Iris Society's spring show. A second show was not held this year because of weather conditions. BIS awards for 1990 were: Dykes Medal, to HIGH PEAK, by B.L.C. Dodsworth; the Foster Memorial Plaque, to Margaret Lee, of Australia; and the Pilkington Award, to Maureen Foster, Mrs. M. R. Hall has resigned as treasurer of the BIS. The new treasurer, to whom all

financial matters should be addressed, is John C. Russell. The mailing address may be obtained

from Stayer.

Concerning the Bulletin copyright, Stayer had found that the AIS had lost its copyright years ago, the first time the Bulletin had been published without the copyright information, and it cannot be reinstated, according to U.S. copyright law. A new copyright may be applied for, however, by filing the proper form along with a fee of \$10 and two copies of the *Bulletin*, the new copyright to begin with the issues submitted. After discussion about the value of having a copyright, Corlew moved, Rasmussen seconded, that Stayer proceed with obtaining a new copyright for the AIS Bulletin. The motion carried.

The secretary has received requests from foreign members for first class mailing of the Bulletin. Lineberger moved, Corlew seconded, that Stayer get a cost estimate for mailing overseas copies

first class and bring the matter up again at the spring meeting. The motion carried.

There was discussion of changing the type of mailing envelope for the Bulletin. Niswonger moved, Lineberger seconded, that Stayer get alternative proposals with prices for further discussion at the spring meeting. The motion carried.

Stayer announced that Region 20 has again donated 15% of the proceeds from the regional

rhizome sale to the AIS.

The Hon. John Warner, U.S. Senator from Virginia, has requested information about irises and about the AIS, probably as the result of letters to senators and congressmen promoting the issuance of an iris postage stamp to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the AIS

Stayer recommended to the Board that the contract with American Airlines be cancelled, noting that convention committees often prefer to negotiate with the airlines on their own. Niswonger so

moved. Barr seconded. The motion carried.

Stayer asked that anyone needing AIS stationery please notify her by December 10. The stationery is ordered only once a year. New RVPs will automatically receive a supply imprinted with their names and addresses.

Membership Secretary Harlow presented a strength report, copies of which had already been sent to the directors. Total membership now stands at 8,353. Region 14 is in first place, Region 4 is second, Region 7 is third and Region 18 is in fourth place. Harlow received compliments for the fine job she is doing as Membership Secretary.

Treasurer Corlew distributed copies of the report for the fiscal year which ended on September 30, and then passed out copies of the proposed budget, to be studied by Board members and

discussed later in the meeting.

Advertising Editor Nelson reported that the January advertising copy has gone to the printer; the

number of color ads is growing, and there are no particular problems.

As Registrar, Nelson said that there had been about 1000 registrations and nearly 500 introductions this year. The 1990 Registrations and Introductions booklet should be ready in January. Lineberger moved, Niswonger seconded, that 1500 copies be printed, to sell for \$5.00 each. The motion carried. There was discussion about the computer in the registrar's office and about the possible need for a new one or for customized software. Nelson reported having received donations toward a computer fund for this purpose as the result of a letter sent out by Ben Hager. Corlew moved, Lineberger seconded, that Nelson, Hager and Marilyn Harlow investigate to determine exactly what is needed for the registrar's office, that the Executive Committee approve the cost determined, not to exceed funds available at the moment, and that a report be made at the spring meeting. The motion carried.

Publication Sales Director Lack presented a report of total sales for the year plus inventories of sales items, of the AIS Archives, and of old Bulletins. There was discussion about the advisability of printing a new membership booklet and about the number to print. Barr moved, Stayer seconded, that a new membership booklet be printed, fewer in number, using the old format. The motion carried. Niswonger moved, Stayer seconded, that 250 be printed. The motion carried. In further discussion concerning the cost of printing and postage and handling, it was determined that the

Executive Committee could give its approval at a later date.

Stayer moved, Barr seconded, that Lack purchase the following books for the AIS Archives: *Th*e Louisiana Iris, The Japanese Iris, and Siberian Irises. The motion carried. At 10:15 PM, the meeting was recessed until 8:30 AM the following morning.

Affiliates Chairman Niswonger reported a total of 146 affiliates, and gave a comparison by year and by region for each year since 1985. A complete listing of approved affiliates for 1990 with the name and address of the president of each one was distributed. Membership secretary Harlow noted that soon after the beginning of the year RVPs will have current membership lists for their regions, important in determining affiliate status.

Awards Committee Chairman Copeland reported having sent 975 ballots to accredited judges on March 30, 1990 and 92 ballots to Judges Training Chairmen for apprentices. Eight hundred seventyfour ballots were returned before the deadline. The Cook-Douglas Medal was not awarded this year, as no iris received 15% of the votes. The Symposium has been completed with top honors going to Beverly Sills, Vanity, Titan's Glory, Stepping Out, and Mary Frances. Approximately 20% of the membership participated. Expenses were \$1905.77. Copeland noted that several errors were made on the AIS ballot and on the Symposium ballot, and he assured the Board and the RVPs that adjustments will be made on future ballots to compensate for these errors.

There was no report from Convention Liaison Williams, who was not present. Ray John of the Fort Worth Iris Society, announced a change in the date of the 1993 AIS convention in Fort Worth this

convention will be held April 20-24, 1993. Exhibitions Chairman Gristwood distributed a detailed report of AIS approved shows held in 1990. There were 186 approved shows, an increase from 179 last year. Region 19 was first with 19

shows and one all-seedling show, and Regions 22 and 14 tied for second place with 15 each. The AIS provided 122 sets of medals to affiliate societies and regions. Gristwood commented that every

show makes the public more aware of irises and of the AIS

Lengthy discussion followed concerning sets of medals provided by the AIS to affiliates and to regions. Lineberger moved that the information sent by Gristwood specify that each affiliate and each region presenting an approved show is entitled to one set of medals. The motion was later withdrawn. Corlew moved that the price of one set of medals (one silver and one bronze) be set at \$27.50. Copeland seconded. The motion carried.

There was a coffee break from 9:45 until 10:15.

Foundation Liaison Pettijohn reported that there are no projects or applications at this time. The

Iris Society of Dallas has made a generous donation to the Foundation.

Historical Committee Chairman Harder distributed a list of items received during 1990 for the AIS historical files and reported on a box of photos and manuscripts received from Mrs. Jesse Wills. Members are encouraged to continue sending catalogs and regional bulletins. Harder is keeping a log of acquisitions as materials come in, and an annual listing of irises introduced that year and whether or not he has pictures of them. Harder stated that he is willing to store anything pertaining to the AIS. There was a suggestion from the floor that AIS conventions be video-taped. This was followed by discussion, but no action was taken.

The report of the Honorary Awards Committee was deferred until later.

Judge's and Judges Training Chairman Crick submitted for Board approval a list of new Master Judges for 1991, along with information about Garden Judges and Apprentices and statistics for the Judges program throughout the regions. Following discussion about the requirements for Master Judges, Lineberger moved, Gates seconded, that the training required of Active Master Judges consist of three hours of classroom training or three hours as a classroom instructor. The motion passed. Crick spoke of problems caused by the fact that RVPs sometimes do not meet the deadline for sending their reports to her, and she thanked Mullin for his help to her as chairman of Judges and Judges Training. Lineberger moved that the Board accept Crick's report, including the following list of new Master Judges:

Region 1—Shirley Varmette Region 2—G.M. Schifferli

Mrs. Granger Smith

Region 6—Lynda Miller

Mrs. Robert E. Moore

Leland M. Welsh

- Evelyn D. Johnson Region 8-

Region 9—Rita Kinsella C.J. Simon

-Hyram L. Ames Region 12-

D. C. Anderson Mrs. Willard Done

Region 13—Doris E. Shinn David Silverberg

Marilyn R. Harlow Region 14-

Frank Foster

Region 18-Floyd Dyer

Norman Gossling Leonard J. Michel

Region 22-Region 23 Mrs. L.E. Roberts

Mrs. Robert D. Steele

Overseas— John O. Baldwin, Australia

N.K. Scopes, England Akira Horinaka, Japan

The motion carried.

Editor Mullin reported on getting material for the *Bulletin*, making the suggestions that section leaders submit material from their Robins for "Flightlines," and that the membership report be printed in the *Bulletin*. Mullin commented that Membership Secretary Harlow is doing an excellent

job, as is Registrar and Advertising Editor Nelson. Both were given a round of applause.

Membership Contest Chairman Fry outlined some of the rules of the contest. During the 1991 AIS convention, one award will be given to a youth member, one to an adult member, and one to an AIS affiliate who have accumulated the largest number of points in the contest. Each affiliate must decide whether its members will participate in the contest as individuals or as a group. In order to encourage continued membership in the AIS, more points will be awarded for conversion of membership from annual to triennial; this applies to those memberships that have been in effect for a minimum of one year. Points for new youth memberships will be awarded to youth recruiters only. This last statement has resulted in some controversy. Following discussion on the subject, Gates moved, Copeland seconded, that the rules of the contest be altered so that all adults and affiliates will receive points for securing youth memberships. The motion passed

will receive points for securing youth memberships. The motion passed.

Policy Chairman Barr stated that there was no report other than the normal gathering of information on policy matters and that there had been no requests from officers or committee chairmen for specific information. At this time both Historical Chairman Harder and Registrar Nelson asked that

material pertaining to their respective positions be forwarded.

Public Relations Chairman Rice-Waters reported that the 1991 calendars are now available. Distribution is going well this year. Members are urged to insert calendar ads in their local newsletters and to use the AIS Display Screen at horticulture shows. Rice-Waters indicated also that when the present supply of AIS post cards is gone a new and different set can be made up. Post Cards can be ordered from Publication Sales Director Lack. Lack also has a supply of the brochure "Native American Iris"

RVP Counselor Machulak commented that the RVPs seem to be getting more work sent to them, and that they are getting very little support from the AIS. There was discussion and quite a bit of disagreement concerning RVPs and their need for support and the relationship between the RVPs

and the AIS.

The meeting was recessed for lunch from noon until 1:45 PM.

Scholarship Chairman Gates reported that scholarship winner John Stromberger, having sent verification of his enrollment, had received his initial check for \$1,000. Scholarship information for next year will be going out in the usual manner about January 1.

There was no Scientific Committee report.

Section Liaison Lineberger stated that he had asked each section to complete an information report and to make suggestions as to what the Board might do to help the sections. The Society for Japanese Irises had responded with the following suggestions:

1) that slides or prints be required as a condition of registration;

2) that funds be provided for a full-time librarian to assist the historian;

that there be rules established concerning items given to the AIS in trust;

4) that the AIS promote fall shows for Japanese irises.

After lengthy discussion of these points the report was acknowledged and accepted for further consideration.

Slides Chairman Shockey sent a report, read by Stayer, about the activity in the use of the slide sets, stating that the new containers were working well. Shockey wrote also, as President of the Aril Society International, asking permission to use an article from Garden Irises in the Aril Society's

1990 Yearbook. Niswonger so moved, Corlew seconded, and the motion carried.

Youth Committee Chairman Gates thanked all the RVPs who had sent information about youth activities to her and who have encouraged youth participation, and she stressed the importance of involving youth members by giving them more responsibilities. Gates recalled that at the spring meeting there had been some discussion about changing the age on youth memberships and that she had been asked to consider the matter and bring a proposal to the fall meeting. The proposal which she brought back was that the age not be changed.

Copeland reported for the Dykes Medal Research Committee, stating that the committee unanimously recommended that the Dykes Medal be awarded annually, and he so moved. Rice-Waters seconded. The motion carried. Copeland then presented a second recommendation, in the form of a motion, that the iris with the most votes be awarded the Dykes Medal, with a run-off to be

held in case of a tie. Rice-Waters seconded. The motion carried.

Copeland then suggested that the president appoint a committee to study the entire awards system, and he so moved. The motion was seconded and passed. Copeland had indicated a willingness to chair such a committee and had suggested the names of three others who could meet together easily for this study, Harold Stahly, Carol Morgan, and Lee Welsh. Waite so appointed this group, with instructions to bring other interested persons into the committee.

There was a break from 2:50 PM until 3:45 PM.

Copeland moved, Niswonger seconded, that Exhibition awards be specifically excluded from the business of the committee to study awards. The motion carried.

Stahly reported for the committee appointed to study RVP voting rights. This committee was formed because of the recommendation from the RVPs to the AIS Board that RVPs be granted voting rights at AIS Board meetings. The committee was uncertain as to whether the recommendation intended that each RVP should have voting rights. A written report outlining concerns on both sides was presented. It was felt that at the very least there is a communication problem and that means should be sought by the Board to give the RVPs a better hearing of their opinions. The committee recommended that the request that each RVP be made an ex officio Director with voting privileges be denied, further recommending that means be sought to strengthen the voice of RVPs in the conduct of AIS affairs and presenting a long list of suggestions representative of committee

After very lengthy discussion of all suggestions and ideas, Machulak moved that the present committee, with the addition of 2 more RVPs, continue the study and report back to the meeting next spring, not necessarily with a final recommendation. Lineberger seconded. The motion carried. The President directed that the two additional RVPs be chosen by the RVPs themselves. During discussion it became apparent that no one intended that all 24 RVPs be voting members of the

Board, therefore action on committee recommendations was deferred

Rasmussen reported for the 75th anniversary committee, stating that there is much to think about and plan for. He mentioned, among other things, a poster, a logo, and the possibilities of having a special Bulletin issue and of the issuance of an iris stamp. The anniversary convention will be held in Pennsylvania, and Rasmussen has been in contact with the RVP of Region 3 and with the convention chairman.

There was no report from the committee to study the findings of Attorney Glenn Spain on interrelationships within the AIS. Chairman Stahly stated that the committee will not begin its study until Spain's report is completed.

Speaking for the committee studying color patterns, Stahly stated that the committee hopes to

have a firm recommendation on color descriptions by the time of the meeting next spring.

The meeting was recessed at 4:40 PM to reconvene after dinner at 9:00 PM.

When the meeting reassembled, President Waite relinquished the chair to Vice President Barr for the beginning of the election of officers. Stayer nominated Waite for President; Corlew seconded. Copeland moved that the nominations cease and Waite be elected by acclamation; Rasmussen seconded. The motion carried.

Waite resumed the chair. Rice-Waters nominated Barr for First Vice President; Niswonger seconded. Stayer moved that the nominations cease and Barr be elected by acclamation; Corlew

seconded. The motion carried.

Stayer nominated Copeland for Second Vice President; Corlew seconded. Barr moved that the nominations cease and Copeland be nominated by acclamation. The motion was seconded and carried.

Corlew nominated Stayer for Secretary; Niswonger seconded. Rasmussen moved that the nominations cease and Stayer be elected by acclamation; Barr seconded. The motion carried.

Copeland nominated Corlew for Treasurer; Niswonger seconded. Stayer moved that the nominations cease and Corlew be elected by acclamation; Rice-Waters seconded. The motion carried. Crick nominated Mullin for Editor; Rasmussen seconded. Gates moved that the nominations

cease and Mullin be elected by acclamation; Copeland seconded. The motion carried.

Waite then called for the Board to go into Executive Session for the purpose of hearing the report of the Honorary Awards committee, appointing James Fry and Rose Mary Baier as counters. Following Executive Session, Waite announced that upon the recommendation of the Honorary

Awards Committee the Hybridizer's Medal had been awarded to George A. Shoop, and that Harley Briscoe and Lloyd Zurbrigg had been named Emeritus Judges.

Waite announced the appointment of the following officers

riallo armounoss ino appointment of the following officers.	
Registrar	. Kay Nelson
Membership Secretary	. Marilyn Harlow
Publication Sales Director	. C. J. Lack
Recording Secretary	. Claire Barr
Advertising Director	. Kay Nelson
Photo Coordinator	. Larry Stayer
	Registrar Membership Secretary Publication Sales Director Recording Secretary Advertising Director Photo Coordinator

Niswonger moved, Copeland seconded, that these appointments be approved. The motion carried.

RVPs:

RVP Counselor Machulak recommended for reappointment the following RVP			
(having se	rved two years)	(having se	rved one year)
Region 3	Sterling Innerst	Region 1	Shirley Pope
	Carol Morgan		Carl M. O'Shea
	Dr. Donald Koza	4	Mrs. Andrew Warner
9	Melody Wilhoit	5	Mrs. A.D. Wilder
	Rose Mary Baier		Jim Keefe
	Paul J. Smith	20	David G. Miller
14	James P. McWhirter	21	Opal Wulf
18	Leda Christlieb		Doug Goodnight
	Mrs. J.H. Jamieson		0

Niswonger moved, Copeland seconded, that these reappointments be approved. The motion

Machulak then recommended for appointment the following new RVPs:

Region 7 Mrs. Donald King

10 Albert W. Ernst

13 Lyle Fort

15 **Bobbie Shepard** 

Mrs. John McMillen 16 19

Nancy Szmuriga T.A. Gilliam 24

Niswonger moved, Copeland seconded, that these appointments be approved. The motion

Waite appointed the following standing committee chairmen:

1) 2)	Affiliates	
3)	Convention Liaison	
4)	Exhibitions	. Lillian Gristwood
5)	Foundation Liaison	. Richard Pettijohn
6)	Historical	. Larry Harder
7)	Honorary Awards	. James Rasmussen
8)	Judges and Judges Training	. Hilda Crick
9)	Membership Contest	. Lucy Fry
10)	Policy	. Claire Barr
11)	Public Relations	. Olive Rice-Waters
12)	Registrations	. Kay Nelson
13)	Robins	
14)	RVP Counselor	. Walter Machulak `

15)	Scholarship	Catherine Long Gates
16)	Scientific	Dr. Currier McEwen
17)	Section Liaison	Everette Lineberger
18)	Slides	Howard Shockey
19)	Youth	Catherine Long Gates

Corlew moved, Barr seconded, that these appointments be approved. The motion carried. Waite passed around a set of prints by Jean Witt which had been sent to him by Colin Rigby of the Species Iris Group of North America. These prints will be available from SIGNA.

Waite thanked the Iris Society of Dallas for generous contributions to the AIS and to the AIS

Foundation.

Waite and Judges and Judges Training Chairman Crick presented a list of suggested revisions for the Judges Handbook for garden and exhibition judging of Japanese irises. This proposal was made by the Society for Japanese Irises. After discussion, Gates moved, Copeland seconded, that the revisions be accepted. The motion passed. These revisions, along with other approved revisions will be sent to all judges along with the judges' ballots, and will be available to others on request.

In response to a complaint about the handling of guest irises at regional meetings, it was the consensus that the Board reaffirm its stated policy that while the Board encourages guesting irises at both regional and national conventions, the Board cannot be responsible for those irises. Stayer presented the new contract with Williams Printing Company. This contract covers the

Stayer presented the new contract with Williams Printing Company. This contract covers the period July, 1991, through April, 1992, and represents an overall increase of approximately 4% with specifications remaining basically the same. Lineberger moved, Rice-Waters seconded, that the new contract be accepted. The motion carried.

Rice-Waters asked for and was granted permission to appoint a committee to work on a project

for an educational display to be used at shows.

The meeting was recessed at 10:35 PM to reconvene at 8:30 the following morning

Following discussion about the disposition of the computer in the Membership Secretary's office. Corlew moved, Stayer seconded, that Harlow sell the computer for the best price available and apply the proceeds to the restricted computer fund. The motion carried.

Rice-Waters moved, Gates seconded, that the Board rescind its policy of having no book reviews

in the Bulletin. The motion carried.

Treasurer Corlew again presented the proposed budget figures. Corlew moved, Stayer seconded, that salaries of paid employees be increased \$25 per month, or \$300 per year. The motion carried. After discussion and some changes, Machulak moved, Niswonger seconded, that the budget be approved with the proper corrections. The motion carried.

Corlew moved, Lineberger seconded, that a committee be appointed to study the membership

dues structure, registration fees, and advertising rates. The motion carried.

Waite appointed Corlew, Nelson, and Harlow to the committee to study the dues structure,

registration fees, and advertising rates.

Waite announced that the spring meeting will be held in Washington, D.C., May 18-22, 1991. An invitation from Judith J. Vaught, president of the Indianapolis Daylily and Iris Society, to hold the fall Board meeting in Indianapolis has been accepted.

The meeting was adjourned with many thanks to the Iris Society of Dallas for being woderful

hosts.

Claire Barr, Recording Secretary

### **Omission**

The last paragraphs of the Monique Dumas-Quesnel article in the October, 1990 Bulletin were not printed. These paragraphs will be in the April Bulletin.

# **Deadlines**

Copy deadlines for the Bulletin are as follows:	
January issue	. October 15
April issue	. January 15
July issue	April 15
October issue	July 15



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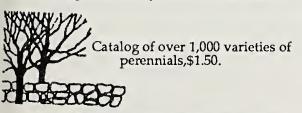
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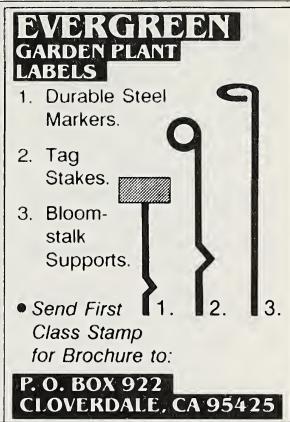


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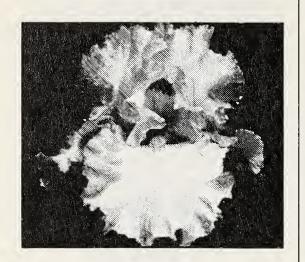
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# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Hybridizer's Medal—George Snoop	5
New Director—Bennett Jones	6
New RVPs	8
Iris Roundup '93-Request for Guests	
1990 Membership Contest Report	14
There's No Business Like Show Business .	
Some Show-Entering Tips	
Iris Postmark	21
Bring Back the Vigor	
Planned Parenthood through Pollen Preserv	vation Sharon McAlister26
Judges' Roster Additions	
Iris Versicolor Development Monique	e Dumas-Quesnel & Tony Huber 29
Request for Information: AIS Robins	Howard Brookins29
Results of Directors' Election	
1990 Japanese Iris Society Convention Re	port Bud Maltman
Contemporary Views—Medians & Louisian	as Perry Dyer35
On the Dykes Medal Vote	Ben Hager
Preparing a Convention Garden	Allan Ensminger 43
Preservation of Antique Siberian Irises	Wilma Little
Club Activities to Increase Enjoyment	Shirley Gresty
Versicolor X Ensata Hybrids Moniqu	e Dumas-Quesnel & Tony Huber51
Growing Irises—Love and Hate	Lorene Logue 66
The Lesson of 1990	David R. Rogers 105
Regular	Features
President's Message 4	Book Review
AIS Membership Rates15	AIS Slides49, 50
Contribution Information	AIS Sales Items101
Gifts to AIS	Advertisers This Issue 106
Youth Views17	Commercial Directory 107

**Front Cover:** Louisiana irises, billowing clouds and willows relected in a Texas pond, evoke a romantic mood captured by photographer Edith Wolford. Color separations are courtesy of the American Iris Society's calendars.



# From the Desk of the President

Kenneth Waite

It is great to welcome April after a winter of varying extremes throughout the nation. How appropriate that a week of this month is celebrated as National Garden Week. The proclamation of 1986 stated "Gardening above all provides a special source of fulfillment—". This is precisely true for Irisarians as enthusiasm stirs when the first iris buds are detected. What a great opportunity to treat fellow gardeners to a visit to iris gardens and acquaint them with the joys of our favorite flower.

Weather conditions across the nation this past winter were of great concern as many fellow irisarians experienced losses of many plants and shrubs due to freezes, floods, and fluctuating temperatures. Perhaps this spring will rejuvenate their gardens and interest. As iris stalks are entered into shows, may a lot of show ribbons compensate for the whims of nature.

The cost of the fall special election as required by petition to elect directors to the board was nearly \$5,000. Approximately 23 percent of the membership exercised their franchise to vote. 1,927 timely ballots were tallied by the accounting firm. It was expected more members would participate.

The new rule for assuring the Dykes Medal be awarded every year was reported in the January Bulletin. The rule states the variety receiving the most votes, regardless of the percentage, be declared the winner. The deliberations of the special committee are appreciated.

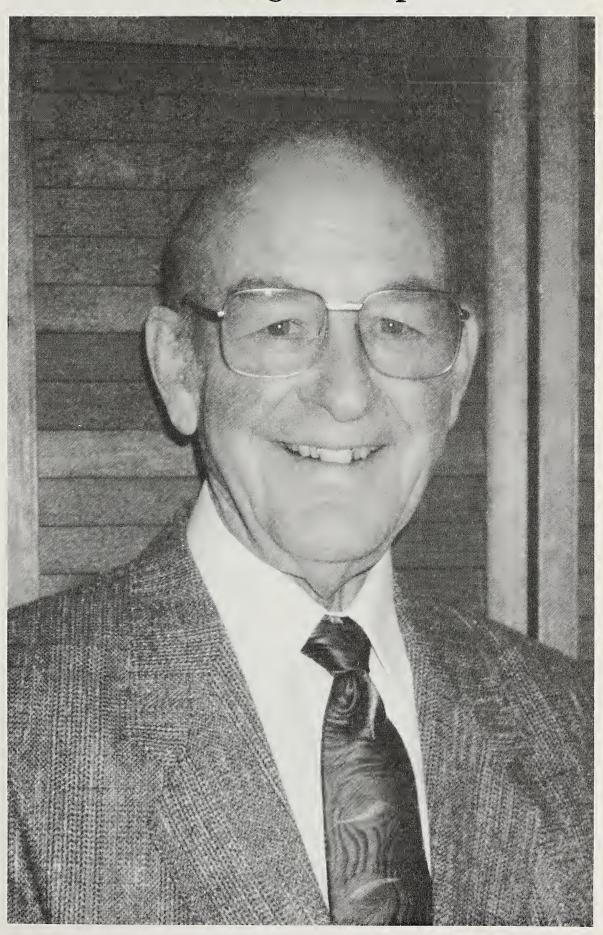
The time is appropriate to reconsider the entire garden awards structure. A committee has been delegated to study the present system and recommend any changes deemed necessary. It is a momentous undertaking of great importance to the purpose of the American Iris Society and will take serious contemplations by the Board of Directors.

A committee has been appointed to study the rising costs of operating the society and determine if the need exists for adjusting fees to compensate for inflation and rise in postal rates. AIS dues have not been increased since 1981, ten years ago.

A great convention in Washington D.C. is promised. The convention staff has planned well for the event and a warm welcome awaits you. Remember to "Go National" in '91 and join us there to delight in a spectacle of irises.

May 1991 be one of the better bloom seasons in your gardens and bring some pleasure in these troubled times.

# Hybridizers' Medal Awarded to George Shoop



# George Shoop

At the meeting in Dallas last November, the Board of Directors awarded the Hybridizers' Medal to Region 13 member George Shoop.

George has been hybridizing irises since 1949. It is his hobby, and his main interest is the tall bearded iris with tangerine beards. All the pioneers of this type of breeding were his idols in the beginning. Dave Hall, Orville Fay, and Dr. Loomis were the true hybridizers of the tangerine bearded iris. George says, "As I remember, their plants were about two feet tall with small, tailored blooms. My first cross in this line of breeding was Spendrift X Floradora."

"Tell Muhlestein introduced some of the first talls such as we have today. His PINK FORMAL, its pink seedlings, and an iris suggested to me by Dr. Randolph for tangerine beards, JEB STUART—a bitoned red, were my beginning. These gave me the pinks and oranges that I have introduced over the past 41 years. I have line bred most of the time with an occasional outcross from other hybridizers.

"I have always been interested in breeding new colors and combinations. Seedlings with dark standards and lighter, contrasting falls have given me several introductions in the last several years. Amoenas in pink, blue, and yellow'are another pursuit.

"Over the years, I have received several awards: a number of honorable mentions; Awards of Merit for ONE DESIRE, LATIN LOVER, RINGO, and BRIGHT VISION: and the Palmgarten Award from Frankfurt, Germany. More importantly though, the iris has given me many friends and years of pleasure."

BRIGHT VISION was one of the first standard dwarf pinks to be introduced. George is famous for irises which cause people to stop and take notice because of their color combinations. Who can forget his tri-colored FANCY TALES, the bold contrast of HULA DANCER and ISLAND GIRL, and the many others that were totally different!

George Shoop is a friendly, kind man whose hobby of hybridizing has brought the world some classic garden irises. He greets everyone with a happy smile and a warmth that is that of an old friend. Right beside him, matching his every good quality, is his wife, Roberta. They are the best examples of the old phrase, "Iris people are nice people."

# **New Director—Bennett Jones**

Bennett Jones returns to serve on the Board of Directors after having served in past years. Bennett was born and raised in Denver, Colorado, where he was exposed to gardening at an early age by grandparents who lived nearby. Irises and gladiolus were his favorite flowers, and he was growing them before he entered high school.

In 1941, Bennett moved to Oregon because he was lured by a milder

climate, a much longer growing season, and a horticultural paradise, all of which proved to be true.

In 1942, Bennett enlisted in the Navy and became an AIS member while stationed on Guam. He had requested and received a copy of the Bulletin from Geddes Douglas who was secretary of the society at that time.

Bennett co-founded the Greater Portland Iris Society in 1948, and in 1953 he began the first of two terms as RVP of Region 13. He attended his first convention in Salt Lake City in 1954. His second term as RVP coincided with his chairmanship of the 1960 National Convention in Portland. He served again as chairman when the 1972 convention was held in Portland.

Bennett was elected to the Board of Directors of AIS in 1973 and served for seven years.

His hybridizing began in 1947, and he favored the smaller irises. He was a charter member of the Median Iris Society, and his interest in those smaller irises expanded, leading to eight medals for median irises. Among the award winners were: FRENCHI, COTTON BLOSSOM, GINGERBREAD MAN, RAIN DANCE, and PEACHY FACE. The Caparne Award was given to his ANGEL EYES, and he received the Hybridizers' Medal and the Distinguished Service Medal from AIS.



**Bennett Jones** 

# NEW REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

# REGION 7 Mrs. Donald R. (Joanne) King

Joanne lays equal claim to three states as heritage: her native California, the Atlanta, Georgia, of her childhood, and middle Tennessee where she and her husband have familied their four sons and daughter (plus six grand-children).

St. Mary's School for Girls at Sewanee, Tennessee, formed her high school education, with annual trips to Nashville's George Peabody College for the State Music Competitions. At sixteen, qualification for the National Music Camp at the University of Michigan at Interlochen put her under the tutelage of Dorsa Whittington. After graduating from Anderson College in South Carolina, Joanne attended High Museum of Art in Atlanta summer sessions while matriculating at Georgia State Women's College. She then moved to Nashville where she was to make her home, marry, and embark on a different journey.

The iris love affair began in a neighbor's yard with the sight of a matchless clump of WABASH followed over the early years with generous nurturing by such memorable, unfamous, names like Gotto, Merriweather, and of course, Robinson of Murphy Road. That love has come to fruition on top of Scramblers Knob where Joanne and Don now make their home. Surrounded by woods, rock, and critter trails are rock-scraped terraces of evergreens, perennials, rock pool garden, a triangular knot garden, and even a square interlocking raised herb bed with its own arbor swing—all integrated by The Iris Walk which displays about 400 irises—bearded, beardless, and a few species.

Joanne has been a member of the Middle Tennessee Iris Society since 1971, serving as officer, show and schedule chairman, and on the Garden Committee at Ellington Iris Display Garden. She has also been a member and speaker in Garden Clubs, Cheekwood, the Nashville Garden Fairs and television on horticulture and floral design in gardening. On "alternate" days, she finds time well spent at Brentwood United Methodist Church where she is a Chancel Choir member, music librarian, Altar Guild co-chairman, and member of the Worship Committee. Combining all with family, "Rather an ever-expanding circle of Loves," she says.

# REGION 10 Albert W. (Al) Ernst

Albert W. Ernest is a native of Louisiana. He was raised in the south, but now lives in north central Louisiana. He received a B.S. in Horticulture from the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette, Louisiana.

Al presently resides in Hornbeck, Louisiana, where he grows around three hundred varieties of Louisianas, Japanese, spurias, Siberians, and is even trying a few tall bearded irises. His interest in irises began back in the 70's.

Currently, he is a member of the AIS, the Society for Louisiana Irises, and sections for Japanese, spuria, and species irises.

When AI is not working with irises, he spends his time at his job as greenhouse horticulturist for Hodges Gardens—a "garden in the forest" in Many, Louisiana. He is responsible for getting a Louisiana iris garden started in which approximately a hundred varieties grow. Hodges garden is also on the list of Louisiana iris display gardens, and AI is chairman of that committee.

### REGION 13 Lyle E. Fort

Lyle Fort, a native of Utah, served in the Army Air Corps during WW II. He married in 1947 and is the father of six and grandfather of twenty-seven. He graduated from the University of Utah with a BS in Physics in 1950. In 1987, he retired from the nuclear industry after 35 years as a design engineer of instrumentation and control.

Always attracted toward all gardening, he was introduced to the iris and joined AIS. Discovering the art of hybridizing, Lyle became a dedicated "pollen dabber" and a garden judge. An enthusiastic iris promoter, Lyle hosted the Fall Region 13 meetings in the Tri-City area for five years and was instrumental in reactivating local societies to form the Tri-City Iris Society in 1985. Lyle enjoys lecturing at Junior College and at various flower clubs on iris varieties and cultivation. One of his greatest pleasures is associating with other irisarians and visiting their gardens.

## REGION 15 Bobbie Shepard

Bobbie was born and raised in St. Petersburg, Florida. Her entire family was native to Florida, but the morning after she graduated from high school, she and her parents moved to Phoenix. On July 4, 1951, Bobbie arrived in Phoenix, and she has been there ever since. She met her future husband, Don, at the theater where she became employed. Bobbie says, "We were married the following December. And, we are still married!" They have two daughters, two sons-in-law, a grandson, a grand daughter, and three minidachshunds.

Bobbie worked for many years in credit, finance, and accounting jobs, but her life took a big turn when, about twenty-five years ago, a neighbor gave the Shepards two varieties of irises which they planted in the wrong place. In spite of the error, the irises grew and bloomed. Just one look, and they were hooked. The Shepards went in search of more irises to grow and were "grabbed" in by Foster Try of the Sun Country Iris Society in Phoenix. It was then a baby of an organization trying to raise money to get rolling. They became involved with Sun Country Iris Society, and in turn, with their first spring Region 15 meeting and garden tour.

Since that introduction, Bobbie has held several offices in Sun Country, been Region 15 treasurer, Assistant RVP, Chairperson for the National Con-

vention in Phoenix in 1985, as well as doing many of the jobs that every society needs done. Together with her husband, Bobbie manages a commercial iris garden in Phoenix called Shepard Iris Garden. The commercial effort keeps Bobbie busy for a good part of the year, but when she thinks of all the good people she and Don have met either in the garden or through AIS and regional functions, she never regrets any of the work involved.

In her spare time, Bobbie tries to fulfill her second love—creative needle work. She loves to sew and do all sorts of decorative work on wearable art. She is currently working on items decorated with irises for the Region 15 Golden Anniversary spring trek in Phoenix in April. The group, famous for its boutique at the 1985 National, plans to have another one for this Region trek.

### REGION 16 Gloria McMillen

Gloria McMillen was born and raised on a farm near Huntington, Indiana. She married John McMillen and moved to his dairy farm near Norwich, Ontario, Canada in 1969. This is when she was introduced to gardening and irises. The McMillens have two boys—Jim, 20 and Dan, 17. All four help with the irises and are AIS judges.

Gloria is a member of the Canadian Iris Society where she helps with shows, the auction, the annual picnic and has been on the Board of Directors for six years. She also has belonged to the London Iris Society since it started three years ago.

The AIS convention in Lansing, Michigan, in 1976 initiated Gloria's real interest in irises. She has continued enjoying most conventions since and is looking forward to Washington, DC. She became an AIS member in 1978.

McMillen's Iris Garden was founded in 1973. The dairy cows were sold in 1980, allowing the family to put all their time into promoting irises. They ship coast to coast with a few customers in the U.S. also. They specialize in bearded irises and also have Siberians and daylilies.

Gloria has been a member of Boys Scouts of Canada for thirteen years, starting as Beaver Leader, then Scout Leader, and now District Executive as Registrar and Leader records and awards.

Her hobbies are sewing, crafts and collecting anything with an iris on it. One of her challenges has been to computerize all the business records and accounts which has been successfully accomplished.

# REGION 19 Nancy Szmuriga

Nancy Szmuriga, who had to resign as RVP because of family matters a year ago, returns as RVP of Region 19.

### REGION 24 Thomas A. Gilliam

T. A., as everyone knows him, was born, raised, and has always lived in Huntsville, Alabama. He received a degree in business administration from John C. Calhoun Community College. After two years of Army service during the Korean War, he became a government employee and has just recently retired after 32 years of service, most of it spent with NASA at Marshall Space Flight Center.

T. A. and his wife, Ruth, were married in 1961. About six months later, they were introduced to the "iris world" and invited to join North Alabama Iris Society. It wasn't long before all the many, many rocks in their backyard were surrounded by irises, mostly tall bearded. Since then, their interest has grown to any type of iris that can be grown in this section of the country.

T. A. has served as president of both North Alabama and Huntsville Chapter of AIS. He was guest iris chairman for the 1979 AIS Convention in Huntsville, was regional test garden director for a few years, and has been Judges Training Chairman the past few years.

Besides growing irises and raising three wonderful children, T. A. is active in his church. He has been Sunday School teacher for two year olds for almost twenty years. That takes patience and courage.

T. A. feels that his association with AIS has introduced him to many new and wonderful friendships through the years and is looking forward to this continued contact during his term as RVP.



Lyle Fort—Region 13



T. A. Gilliam Region 24



Gloria McMillen Region 16



Bobbie Shepard Region 15



Joanne King Region 7

# IRIS ROUNDUP 93 Request for Bearded Irises

THE FORT WORTH IRIS SOCIETY AND REGION 17 WILL HOST THE 1993 AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY NATIONAL CONVENTION IN FORT WORTH, TEXAS. THE GUEST IRIS COMMITTEE INVITES HYBRIDIZERS TO SEND GUEST RHIZOMES OF RECENT INTRODUCTIONS AND SEEDLINGS OF BEARDED IRISES UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR INTRODUCTION.

WHEN SENDING GUEST IRISES, PLEASE OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES:

- 1. FOUR RHIZOMES OF EACH VARIETY SHOULD BE SHIPPED.
- 2. THE GUEST IRISES WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM JULY 1, 1991 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1991.
- 3. ALL OFFICIAL GUEST IRISES MUST BE SHIPPED TO:

KEITH SMITH 1993 GUEST IRIS CHAIRMAN 6008 WONDER DR. FT. WORTH, TX 76133 817-292-5804

- 4. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION SHOULD ACCOMPANY EACH PLANT:
  - A. HYBRIDIZER'S NAME AND ADDRESS.
  - B. NAME OR SEEDLING NUMBER OF THE VARIETY.
  - C. TYPE OF IRIS: SDB, MTB, TB, ETC.
  - D. HEIGHT AND COLOR.
  - E. YEAR OF INTRODUCTION (IF INTRODUCED).
- 5. WHEN GUEST SEEDLINGS ARE NAMED, IT WILL BE THE RESPON-SIBILITY OF THE HYBRIDIZER TO NOTIFY THE GUEST IRIS CHAIRMAN NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 1, 1992.
- 6. A RECEIPT WILL BE MAILED TO ALL CONTRIBUTORS. SHORTLY BE-FORE THE CONVENTION, CONTRIBUTORS WILL BE ASKED FOR IN-STRUCTIONS REGARDING THE DISPOSITION OF THE PLANTS. FAILURE TO REPLY BY JUNE 15, 1993, WILL BE INTERPRETED AS PERMISSION TO DESTROY ALL STOCK. ALL OFFICIAL GUEST PLANTS WHICH ARE TO BE RETURNED WILL BE SHIPPED POSTPAID, EXCEPT TO FOREIGN ADDRESSES.
- 7. THE CONVENTION COMMITTEE AND OWNERS OF TOUR GARDENS WILL FOLLOW THE STATEMENT OF THE CODE OF ETHICS AS PRINTED IN THE A.I.S. CONVENTION HANDBOOK.
- 8. THE GUEST IRIS COMMITTEE WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LOSSES BEYOND ITS CONTROL, AND ONLY RHIZOMES RECEIVED THROUGH THE GUEST IRIS CHAIRMAN SHALL BE LISTED IN THE CONVENTION HANDBOOK.

## 1990 Membership Contest Report

Lucy Fry (Kansas)

What wonderful participation we've had from individuals and affiliates in the 1990 contest! 10 Regions, 19 Affiliates, and 23 Individuals entered the contest and though I could hope for more, we gained many new members for AIS. A special award was available for the youth members earning the most points, but no entries were received from any youth member. We will retain the award and urge youth to enter the 1991 contest.

The high point score for individuals was a very close contest between Joe Christopher and Vic Sellers with the following results.

Member	Region	Points
Joseph L. Christopher	7	385
Vic Sellers	21	370
Ruby Wilson	14	190
Ruth Walker	4	105
Affiliate	Region	Points
Affiliate Francis Scott Key Iris Society	Region 4	Points 270
	•	
Francis Scott Key Iris Society	•	270

The awards for Joe and the Francis Scott Key Iris Society will be presented at the AIS Convention in Washington, D.C. and a notice of appreciation will be sent to each member and affiliate who scored 30 or more points in the contest.

I encourage each Region to promote the contest as a means of enrolling new members. Each affiliate needs to decide whether to participate as an Affiliate or as individuals. The sum of the various points of individual members in the affiliate society may push the affiliate into the winners circle.

Review the 1991 contest rules and join in the fun. Additional copies of the rules are available from me for any who may need them.

American Iris Society Conventions			
1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996	Washington, DC Atlanta, GA Fort Worth, TX Portland, OR Hershey, PA Sacramento, CA	May 18-22 April 28-May 2 April 20-25 May 21-25	

#### **AIS MEMBERSHIP RATES**

Annual	\$ 9.50	Family Trien	nial		28.50
Triennial	23.75	Life		1	90.00
Family	11.50	Family Life		2	37.50
Youth Member, with others of family as members 2.00					
Youth Members, with no others of family as members					. 3.25
,	•				
		single	single	family	family
SECTION MEMBER	SHIP RATES	annual	triennial	annual	triennial
Median Iris Society		5.50	15.00	8.00	22.50
Society for Siberian	Irises	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Spuria Iris Society.		5.00	12.00	6.00	14.00
Society for Japanese			9.00	4.00	10.50
Reblooming Iris Soc	iety	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Society for Pacific C					
Native Iris		4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00

3.50

3.00

3.00

5.00

9.00

8.00

8.00

12.00

4.50

4.50

4.50

6.00

10.50

12.00

12.00

15.00

Membership in AIS sections is open to all AIS members. Payment may be made directly to the Section, or may be made payable to the American Iris Society and sent to AIS Membership Secretary, Marilyn Harlow, P.O. Box 8455, San Jose, CA 95155

Species Iris Group of

North America .....

Louisiana Iris Society of America ......

Dwarf Iris Society .....

Historic Iris Preservation Society .....

#### CONTRIBUTIONS AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY: Send to The American Iris Society, Jeane Stayer, Secretary, 7414 E. 60th St., Tulsa, OK 74145.

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY FOUNDATION: Send to AIS Foundation, Richard T. Pettijohn, Treasurer, 2510 S. 148th Avenue, Omaha, NE 68144. Donations to the Foundation and AIS are tax deductible. Note: please include name and address of next-of-kin pertaining to mamorial gifts, as that a part of asknowledgment may be sent.

memorial gifts, so that a card of acknowledgment may be sent. Checks should be payable to the American Iris Society or the American Iris Society Foundation.

# GIFTS TO THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

July 15, 1990 to January 15, 1991

#### **MEMORIAL GIFTS FOR:**

MRS. THELMA BENSON (TX)

Benson Iris Society (TX)

MRS. BESS CHEEVER (CO)

Region 20, AIS

Emery and Jo Swartzendruber

Loomis Iris Society (CO)

FRANCES GAULTER (CA)

Dolores T. Denney (KS)

SAM GODDARD (TN)

Twin States Iris Society (TN)

H. KAI GRISSIM (TN)

Twin States Iris Society (TN)

MARGARETE HAWKINSON (CA)

Inland Iris Society (CA)

VERA "BILL" HENSEL (OK)

Mr. and Mrs. Larry D. Stayer (OK)

Elizabeth Stanley (OK)

HELYNE JOHN (TX)

Wanda Gaines Dow (TX)

DOROTHY KALKWARF (NE)

Gene Gaddie (NE)

Garland and Dorothy Bare (NE)

CAROL LANKOW (WA)

Region 13, AIS

Jim and Lucy Fry (KS)

Pierce County Iris Society (WA)

Paul Gossett (OK)

Evelyn and Bennett Jones (OR)

DR. WILLIAM R. LEWIS (MO)

Greater St. Louis Iris Society (MO)

JACK MacFARLANE (CA)

Orange County Iris and Daylily Club (CA)

#### **BETTIE OSBORNE (CA)**

Lilly Gartman (CA)

Joe Ghio (CA)

Mr. and Mrs. Larry D. Stayer

(OK)

Bill Maryott (CA)

Marilyn Harlow (CA)

MARIE PANIKOFF (CT)

Region 1, AIS

KAY PARRISH (OK)

Mr. and Mrs. Larry D. Stayer

(OK)

Elizabeth Stanley (OK)

JOHN WOODFORD RAPP, JR.

(CT)

Region 1, AIS

DR. LESLIE A. ROBINSON (KS)

Wichita Area Iris Club (KS)

CARL G. SCHULZ (CT)

The Connecticut Iris Society

(C1)

Shirley A. Varmette (CT)

**ELTON TROTH (WA)** 

Pierce County Iris Society (WA)

MILDRED WILLIAMS (KS)

Parsons Area Iris Society (KS)

#### **OTHER GIFTS:**

Region 20, AIS

The Iris Society of Dallas (TX)

# COMPUTER FUND FOR REGISTRAR:

Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society

(CA)

Olive Rice (CA)

David A. Lennette (CA)

Mt. Diablo Iris Society (CA)

# IN MEMORY OF BETTIE OSBORNE (CA)

Manley Osborne (CA)

### YOUTH VIEWS

Catherine Long Gates

#### YOUTH MEMBERS—WHO ARE THEY?

Anyone under nineteen years of age who joins the American Iris Society is classified as a youth member. Youth members are full fledged members entitled to all the same rights and responsibilities as any adult members. They may become judges, hold offices, serve on or chair show and sale committees, recruit new members, attend conventions, vote the Symposium ballot, give programs, and engage in all the other opportunities that the American Iris Society offers.

This classification entitles the individual to a lower dues rate (\$3.25, with no others of family as members or \$2.00 with others of family as members). There are some other advantages that are open to youth members. They are eligible to be nominated for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Youth Achievement Award which honors one outstanding youth member each year and is presented at the awards program at the national convention. They may participate in the Ackerman Youth Essay Contest sponsored through the AIS Foundation which has a \$100 cash prize. They may compete in a special youth category of the Membership Contest and receive a plaque. Several regions and affiliates sponsor recognition awards for youths within their groups. They may enter either the youth section or the regular section of an AIS show. They are sometimes offered a lower registration rate at regional and national conventions. Currently, they have the opportunity to participate in a Robin just for youth. In some areas they have their own clubs and/or have programs and activities designed just for them.

Who are youth members? They are young, enthusiastic, energetic, full of new ideas, ready to help. They are iris buffs, iris fanciers, iris lovers, iris nuts, root rot eradicators, borer abhorrers, bitten by the iris bug, infected with the iris virus. They are special and yet they are like all the rest. They are irisarians and aren't we glad!

### There's No Business Like Show Business

C. J. Simon (Illinois)

The attitudes iris show entrants display about showing their flowers are as varied as the number of iris cultivars in existence. As I've observed those contestants over the years of iris competition, they usually fall into one of three categories.

The first category (A) is the person who grows irises and only thinks about an iris show on the date of the show. The morning of the show, he surveys his

plantings, cuts several specimens, transports them to the show location, enters them, and is happy with whatever the results of the judging are. Category A usually doesn't fare well; but on rare occasions will win a Section or even Queen of the Show.

The second category (B) prepares in the same manner as Category A; but is always unhappy with the results of the judging. Category B desires to perform at a higher level but is unwilling to plan ahead and take time to think about the whole activity.

The third category (C) spends a little time thinking about iris competition and comes prepared. He or she will usually win a number of awards and is pleased about the results.

Now, if you would like to be a Category C person, then maybe a review of preparation activities would be in order.

- 1. Establish within your mind what the judges are looking for. Establish why entries win. How can you do that, you ask yourself? Volunteer to act as a clerk at your next show and listen as the judges review the entries. Buy a Judge's Training Manual and review it. Take Judge's Training even if you are not intending to become a judge. Review the results of a show and don't be afraid to ask questions of why one flower won over another. Try to make your review immediately after the official judging is complete. Flowers change their competitive value as they grow older.
- 2. Review how you are going to transport your entries to the show. Many a specimen has been ruined getting into and out of a car. Review the containers that you are going to use. Florist vials with pointed ends pressed into one-inch thick styrofoam sheets will allow the smaller irises to be transported easily. Racks drilled to hold test tubes work equally well but require fabrication.

Tall bearded irises are extremely difficult to transport. One technique will not necessarily work for everyone. I use pop bottles in their cartons supported by bricks. Removing the back seat of my car allows the stalks to reach the show without touching another stalk or parts of the car. A WARNING: TB stalks in pop bottles are top heavy and easily tip over. Other competitors use racks and minivans. Watch how successful contestants bring the specimens to the show, and try to emulate their techniques.

- 3. Two weeks before the show start reviewing your plantings and watch their development. Water the irises one week before the show if soil moisture is low. Stake irises that may be leaning because of shade or high winds. Watch the development and focus your attention on well branched irises. Look the stalk over well for damage. Badly damaged stalks should not dilute your attention and should be left in the garden to be enjoyed as later buds open.
- 4. Which iris to cut is a matter of judgment and requires experimentation. Your objective is to have the specimens at peak appearance at the time they are being judged. Practice watching how long an iris blossom takes to open from the time the bud reaches its maximum size until it fully opens. My experience is that you can only get a relative idea about opening time as each variety opens at a different rate. I like to cut my irises the night before the show

and let the stalks open in the house. This eliminates the damage of a sudden rain storm during night time hours.

The two following questions are always asked about influencing the opening of the buds:

- 1. Can I open a bud quickly?
- 2. Can I refrigerate a stalk?

The answer to each is yes; but a tradeoff of resulting quality is usually the outcome. Placing a stalk in a bottle with warm, not HOT, water will encourage the buds to open quickly but can cause them to be small. Hot water will cook the stalk. Blowing warm air gently into the bud can also be used with the same results. Refrigeration will slow the opening process but can cause blossom degradation and make them look like tissue or crepe paper. The best approach is to let the buds open on their own. Judges can detect the forcing or retarding techniques during judging.

5. The last item to think about is preparing the flowers for entry. This starts by filling out your entry tags at home while you cut your flowers. Time is precious during the entry period and filling the tags out before arrival helps tremendously. Review each stalk for grooming assistance before placing it in the show. Carry show tools that can assist this. Some cotton swabs will help to clean fingerprints from the stalk. They can also be used to remove spiderwebs and small dirt particles. Trim a bit off the bottom of the stalk to allow it to absorb moisture. An Exacto knife is very sharp and can trim neatly. A camera lens blower can help blow dirt away as well. Check the entry for insects and remove them. Spent or fading blossoms should be removed neatly. It's amazing what judges can find in the middle of an iris bloom. Small twigs to acorns have cost an entry a blue ribbon more than once.

Now if you think about iris show preparation it really doesn't take a lot of effort but just a little planning. Not a bad price to pay for the pleasure of good results.

## **Some Show-Entering Tips**

Ronald Mullin (Oklahoma)

Since the nearest show for me is 60 miles away, I've tried many methods of transporting irises. Over the years, I've found some things which worked well for me, and I'm sharing them here. None of these ideas originated with me, so I deserve no credit for them.

Anyone who ever arrived at the show site and couldn't remember the name of a beautiful specimen that was not labeled when it was cut, can use this simple technique. Cut strips of paper about an inch wide. The length can be the width of a sheet of notebook paper (8½ inches). Down the center on one end of the strip, cut a slit about two inches long (longer will not matter). Take these to the garden and label the "possible" show entries. Write the name of the iris on the end that has no slit. Wrap the strip of paper around the stalk, well away from a flower or potential flower, and insert the "name" end through the

slit on the other end. This secures the paper to the stalk. When it is time to cut specimens, those white tags will help avoid missing that prize-winning stalk as you hurriedly search for the best entries in the garden. It also means that forgetting a name won't be a problem. Fill out only one label at a time to avoid mislabeling. One can laugh at a mistake when Putrid Pink and Doggy Blue labels are switched because the names are obvious on two such different varieties, but problems arise when the switched labels involve Putrid Pink and Pallid Pink. At one time in my iris life, such mixups would not have been such a problem, but as time goes by, any name other than my own is sometimes elusive, especially iris names for similar varieties.

Anyone who has ever transported irises to a show knows that every conceivable reason for stopping quickly will happen as the journey takes place. Corners will be turned too quickly, bumps will be worse than they appear, and the slightest change in speed will cause a container to tilt one way while the one next to it tilts the opposite direction so the irises can crash into each other. If an irisarian can enter a show after a long trip without losing his or her temper, that's one organized, calm, and sensible person.

For me, the best way to transport irises involves buckets and newspapers. A few bricks may be needed too, but they are not the most important parts of this plan.

First, take sections of newspaper which have enough pages to make them substantial when rolled. Use your finger or a stick of some kind and wrap the paper so that a hole large enough to accommodate an iris stalk remains in the middle. Place rubber bands around the cylinder to hold it in place. Take these to the garden when it is time to cut those already-labeled specimens.

Fill buckets with water and place them in the car. Don't fill them completely, but don't forget that the irises and those newspaper cylinders will absorb plenty of water.

When a specimen is cut in the garden, it is placed in a cylinder and taken to the water-filled buckets. The newspaper cylinder will abosrb the water, enlarge, and fit firmly around the stalk. This is repeated with other specimens until the bucket is filled. Keep the specimens separate by putting newspaper between them. Use enough so that when it absorbs water, it will hold the cylinders in place. DO NOT load the bucket outside the car. That makes loading the irises without damage almost impossible. This has worked extremely well for me as I rush madly trying to get to the show in time to make entries, and the only damage has occurred when I banged the specimen against the top of the car.

Don't try to lift the bucket out of the car. Imagine the weight of a bucket filled with water and wet newspaper, and you'll quickly understand why. Unload each specimen individually, squeeze out excess water, remove the iris from the cylinder, and place it in the show container.

If you've been wise, most of the grooming will have been done before this time, but additional work will be needed. Be sure these items are available: cotton swabs (Q-tips), scissors, a soft cloth, and a sharp knife.

Remember those slips of paper that were attached in the garden? Don't forget to remove them, and when they are removed, keep them as a record of the entries made. If the club requires a list of the entries, copy from these strips of paper. If no list is required, then make one for yourself to be used in checking entries for ribbons after the show is judged.

For some people, winning at shows is automatic, it seems, but these are the people who have worked hard for those awards. For me, the shows have always been too much work because of the distance; however, I've managed to win when I did enter, and the above techniques saved me from a nervous breakdown on show days.

### 1991 IRIS FESTIVAL

The 1991 Ponca City Iris Festival will include twice as many activities as last year. Highlights of the day include the Ponca City Fine Arts Festival, a Home and Leisure Show, Chocolate Festival, Chili and BBQ Cook-off, Judged Iris Show, Tours of local Iris Gardens, Crafts and Antique show, presentations by Park Pal, musical entertainment, and a special one day only hand stamped postmark.

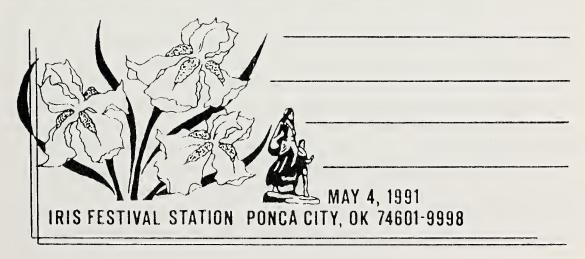
The Ponca City Post Office will participate by offering the one day only free hand stamped postmark of this year's beautiful Iris Festival cancellation.

1990's postmark went to recipients in 38 states and seven foreign countries, according to Mr. Les Heppel, Postmaster. To receive your 1991 Iris Festival postmark or to send one to a loved one, please enclose a stamped, self addressed envelope inside another envelope addressed to:

Postmaster Iris Festival Station Ponca City, OK 74601-9998

Entries should be postmarked no later than May 4, 1991.

The day's festivities will begin at 9:30 am with the opening ceremonies and will continue through the evening. Anyone desiring a schedule of events or more information can contact the Ponca City Main Street Authority at 405-762-1002 or PO Box 2532 Ponca City, OK 74602.



# **Bring Back the Vigor:**A Challenge for the Future

Anne Lowe (Virginia)

"The different species of Iris are among the most showy of hardy perennials. No special culture is required, as the greater proportion grow freely in any garden soil, and bloom well year after year. They are all very hardy, increase rapidly, flower freely, and are admirable bordering for the spring garden. By hybridization have arisen the host of varieties which we find in gardens, many of which present striking combinations of color, and are very beautiful. It is rare to find a genus where all its members are so showy and worthy of cultivation. For beauty and variety, we know of no family excelling the iris." Seventy Five Popular Flowers, Edward Sprague Rand, Jr., Boston: J. E. Tilton and Co., 1870.

A local irisarian recently sent me these words of wisdom written 120 years ago. I can without reservation agree with Mr. Rand's last statement. However, I have problems recognizing some modern irises as the hardy and reliable garden plants he describes. No special soil requirements? Free flowering and bloom well year after year? Hardy? In fact, many of the newer cultivars might conceivably say "Is he talking about me?"

This leads me to ask the question, "What has become of the reliability, hardiness, and ease of cultivation we found among the top irises of 30 and more years ago?"

I was exposed to iris culture during the '30s and '40s in the gardens of my mother and my aunt, both of whom were good gardeners and knowledgeable about perennials in general and irises in particular. I have actively raised irises since 1953 and I have seen a lot of irises come and go. The older I get, the less vigor I bring to my iris patch, and I am beginning to think that a similar situation exists among many of the new irises dangled before us each spring. Each year I order as many as I can afford of those new bearded irises which have taken our eye during National and Regional conventions. We plant them in our (amended) acid, sandy loam and eagerly await iris season the following spring. All too often, we are afflicted with the 3D Syndrome (disappointed, disgusted, and discouraged). I thought maybe it was just us until a renowned irisarian friend from the Midwest reported that out of 78 new introductions planted in 1989, only 13 bloomed and, of those, only 2 were "normal" blooms.

Now I will be the first to admit that the weather during the winter of 1989 and the spring of '90 was unusually harsh across much of the country. Here in southern Virginia, after nearly 3 weeks of sub-teen weather in December, we had 80° weather in January, 60° days in February and snow and hard freezes the end of April—any one of which could be expected to do in *many* of the more tender and less established plants or *some* of the very early varieties. We did *not* expect to have zero bloom on about 60% of our plants, nor did we expect to lose at least 15% from rot directly attributable to freeze damage.

Many of the irises which did bloom were stunted, had extra or missing parts, or bloomed atypically—*i.e.* six inches high. The most outstanding bloom we had, aside from the beardless which were relatively undamaged, came from varieties in the historic beds—those cultivars representing all groups of bearded irises introduced prior to 1960, many pre-1940 vintage—and their growth during the summer was normal with little rot or other evidence of freeze related damage.

What does this tell us? If 1989-90 had been the first year in which this occurred, I might chalk it up to the year that was and go my merry way. However, this type of situation is happening with increasing frequency, and frankly, I'm getting tired of excusing inherent faults in an iris on grounds of the weather or the climate in which we live. I am busy and life is too short to bother with irises which bloom every other year (maybe). I do not subscribe to the theory that a good iris is one which increases faster than it rots. I am not willing to subject myself to the tending of certain frail and rotting plants year after year, nor do I feel that I must prove myself by coaxing a noted "difficult-togrow" variety to bloom. What is the alternative other than switching back to growing vegetables?

If the seasoned and experienced iris grower who has access to published and word-of-mouth information, is having problems, where does this leave the novice irisarian or the general gardener who wants a few good irises for the perennial border? How can the average gardener avoid the pitfalls of weak and iffy iris cultivars? How can those proven varieties that will grow anytime, anywhere be obtained?

Iris development has been channelled almost exclusively toward improved color and flower form, and expressions of concern voiced by judges, hybridizers, and ardent irisarians has not been sufficient to halt or reverse this trend. Many irisarians across the country feel that, in breeding for big, wide, ruffled, gorgeously colored flowers, iris garden-ability and stamina have been sacrificed. It is all too easy for a hybridizer to say, "I'll introduce this iris because of the color (form, pattern, etc.); let someone else worry about the low bud count (lack of branching, poor foliage, etc.)" or "So it's frost tender—that's not a problem here."

Commercial enterprise is far from blameless in this area. Present day marketing trends dictate that the advertising prose become more purple each year, bombarding us with yummy descriptions of color and form until we part with our hard earned cash to purchase these gorgeous creations—only to lose them in the garden, sometimes without ever seeing them flower. If one carefully reads between the lines, it becomes apparent that garden-ability, (what I call "the hardiness factor"), is seldom if ever addressed. Mention of those traits such as; susceptibility to cold, tendency to rot, lack of disease immunity, over/under increase, is notably absent from the advertising hype.

On the other hand, many general nurserymen advertise what we modern and enlightened irisarians call "old dogs." Sneer if you will, but they grow and bloom under average conditions in the garden of John Doe, Anywhere, U.S.A. I firmly believe that if one presents problems, suggested solutions should also be forthcoming. I suggest that we need to be more careful in the advertising and marketing of modern irises. In short, we need to tell it like it is. The market depends on the buyer for support. If irises from a certain line of breeding won't grow for you, don't buy them. It's as simple as that. Word rapidly gets around in the iris community, and if an iris doesn't sell because it won't grow, that's a hint only the most obtuse commercial enterprise can ignore.

I strongly feel that we need to facilitate the development of irises which again meet some/all of the criteria outlined in 1870 by Mr. Rand. It has been suggested that some of these older cultivars which have survived the winnowing of time might furnish genes to help increase the hardiness of irises of the future, and many present day hybridizers do utilize some of these wonderful old irises. A look at the genetic background of some of the more successful irises tends to illustrate why they have so successfully remained at the top of the popularity polls. Call it hardy ancestors, good genes or careful selection—the fact remains that certain irises survive and perform consistently in large areas of the world. To this end, we might consider a project in which pedigrees of those irises which exhibit good garden habits and which consistently pass on better than average garden traits to seedlings are researched, and this information collated via a computer database, where it would be readily available to hybridizers. While some hybridizers now do this manually, it is almost impossible for one person to investigate enough pedigrees to give a valid and repeatable list of 'stud' iris. This would appear to be a worthwhile and realistic project for some of our AIS computer people to consider.

This leads to another potential problem and another possible solution: in researching pedigrees we must often go back to (or nearly to) the species before we find the common ancestor(s) responsible for a given trait of hardiness. It is not always easy to locate plants of these earliest of irises; indeed, some of them are in extreme danger of extinction if they are not already lost. Here it comes folks! Both HIPS and SIGNA are dedicated to preserving those older irises which, over the years, have demonstrated exceptional merit (and a few that haven't!). One function of HIPS has been to encourage the maintenance of a gene pool of these hardy survivors. These irises are available to hybridizers so that some of their good characteristics—hardy, easy to grow, good increase, disease resistance, high bud count, in short all the qualities which, over the years, have made the iris a desirable garden plant—may be transferred to the new and beautiful irises of the future. To bring this about, HIPS has established a database which lists the whereabouts, at this time, of approximately 800 irises introduced prior to 1960. Anyone seeking a source for a particular iris within this time period can obtain this information through Larry Doucette at 482 Middlesex Ave., Wilmington, MA 01887. We hope that hybridizers will avail themselves of this locator service.

All the blame cannot be laid at the feet of hybridizers and the commercial iris establishment. It is increasingly evident that the AIS awards system is the

tail which wags the dog—awards sell iris. Our award system is excellent. However, in recent years, top awards have often been received by iris flowers, with scant consideration being given to the overall vigor of the entire plant. Too many judges vote garden awards on the basis of what they see on the show bench and this bias misrepresents what our society is certifying as 'The Best.' Most iris growers need something more than just another pretty face.

The only force which can begin to resolve this dilemma is the governing body of AIS. It takes real courage to tinker with an in-place program which is functioning with relatively few problems. The conservative approach of "If it ain't broke, don't fix it" has its merits. However, I suggest that the time has come to initiate a subtle shift of emphasis which would direct the top awards towards improved all around iris performers. Perhaps we should take a good look at the system practiced by the American Rose Society in which they employ a lengthy combination of test gardens and a panel of experts from widely separated locations to choose a few All American Rose Selections each year. Obviously, the registration and introduction of roses is quite severely curtailed and stringent requirements must consistently be met. While the merits of this system are arguable, one fact emerges clearly: performance is the bottom line. Roses that do not perform do not receive endorsement by the ARS which, in turn, directly affects the advertising, marketing and distribution of a given rose. It must work when you consider the large numbers of persons who successfully grow roses at home and abroad!

Concern over iris vigor has been voiced over and over again since AIS began. Each decade the pot is periodically stirred and then subsides, to bubble up again a few years later. Perhaps I am the pot-stirrer for 1991. Those of us who buy, grow, and vote on new irises have the responsibility of saying "Whoa there!" If the bottom line really is performance, it is up to us to tell hybridizers what we perceive to be faults and how irises do/don't perform for us. It is up to us to let our governing body know what we think needs to be done, and to press on in an orderly fashion until some positive action is taken. This will take time, work and a great deal of patience on our part, but the rewards are well worth the effort.

It appears to me that the challenge to hybridizers of the '90s (and even into the 21st Century) will be to develop irises that are hardy garden perennials; irises that can be grown by the average gardener anywhere—and still retain the glorious colors and full, ruffled form which we now have. In these days of acid rain, unpredictable seasons, decreasing water and increasing heat, resistant bugs and mutated microbes, this is a tall order indeed. The challenge to irisarians is to provide positive support and guidance necessary to ensure that these objectives are met.

I am confident that irisarians world wide can and will meet this daunting prospect head on, and that, as in the 1870's, we will have once again ". . . a genus where all its members are so showy and worthy of cultivation."

### Planned Parenthood through Pollen Preservation

Sharon McAllister (New Mexico)

Planned crosses provide a prime example of the old axiom, "Easier Said Than Done." When spring arrives, winter's carefully laid plans encounter the reality that irises bloom when they want to, not when we want them to. But there's a relatively simple solution—although pod parents must be selected from the available pool of fresh flowers, it's quite possible to vastly improve the variety of available pollen parents by a bit of judicious planning. This is not solely the province of advanced hybridizers. Even the novice is often frustrated when desirable parents don't bloom at the same time. Fortunately, pollen is very easy to save.

#### Selecting the Pollen for Storage

The key is to select mature anthers with pollen that has completely dehisced but has not yet been shed. The basic rules for harvesting pollen for storage are the same as those for selecting pollen for fresh crosses, with one additional caveat: Save only the best, because pollen will gradually deteriorate during storage.

Look for a flower that is near peak bloom and has a lot of visible pollen. When a flower first opens, the anthers are still closed and the pollen has not yet dehisced. Wait until the pollen is clearly visible and looks fluffy. Using tweezers, pluck the entire stamen, including as much of the filament below the anther sacs as possible. Under normal conditions, the pollen will remain viable for several days. If the insects haven't been too attentive, some usable pollen may remain until the flower starts to fade. If the flower has been open through a heavy rain or dew, however, the remaining pollen is probably not viable. Pollen grains burst open in water and are, in fact, very sensitive to moisture of any kind. If the flower is folding, it's too late—any remaining pollen will have been subjected to so much moisture that it will no longer be viable.

#### Preparing the Pollen for Storage

The pollen should be dried rapidly if it is to remain viable for a prolonged period of time. In dry climates, it is sufficient to dry the stamens in the open air, for example, by spreading them out in a shallow container such as a small plate or a plastic lid and placing this on a shelf overnight. (Just remember to label each container!) They should be stiff and dry after about 24 hours. The filament end provides a convenient indicator for "doneness." As long as the filament is limp, the plate of stamens should be left to dry longer. When it is stiff enough that it can be used as a "handle" for picking up the stamen without disturbing the anther sacs themselves, the stamen is ready for storage. If it is left to dry longer than this, the filament will become brittle and the pollen may shatter in storage.

#### Selecting Storage Containers

Small paper envelopes (about 2" x 3") take relatively little storage room, provide ample room for labeling, and are easy to mail. Once one is opened, however, it's best to use all of its contents rather than try to reseal it.

Small gelatin capsules are relatively easy to handle and can be opened and resealed. They can also be mailed, although they aren't as easy to pack for mailing as the little envelopes.

Small plastic containers, such as those your neighborhood drive-in restaurant uses for sauces, are good for storing larger quantities and are very easy to handle, but they aren't convenient for mailing.

Whatever type you choose, be sure to identify the pollen, whether by writing directly on the container with a permanent marker or using an adhesive label. In a dry climate, no additional preparation is needed. Experimenters coping with greater humidity have reported that storage life can be prolonged by using the relatively permeable paper envelopes or gelatin capsules and placing them inside an airtight canister with a dehydrating agent such as silica gel.

#### Storage Techniques

Small quantities can be easily stored by arranging the envelopes, capsules, or other containers in a larger plastic container with a snap-on lid. Some people take the added precaution of placing a piece of absorbent cotton or other drying agent in the bottom of the container. This container can then be kept in the refrigerator at ordinary above-freezing temperature for the rest of the bloom season. Individual pollen containers can be added or removed, as needed, but the large container should be kept in the refrigerator to protect in from the temperature fluctuations that would result from trips to the garden.

#### **Using Stored Pollen**

The stored anther is too brittle to handle directly, but it's easy to use a toothpick or camel's hair brush to lift the pollen from the anther and spread it over the stigmatic lip. If the pollen was stored in an envelope, the easiest way to use it is to open the envelope out at the seams and spread it flat instead of trying to reach into it. This lets you get all of the pollen out of the creases.

A toothpick is an ideal disposable tool because it's convenient to use a different toothpick for each type of pollen and thus avoid contamination. The colored type is best. Cream-colored pollen is easy to see against the background of a red, blue, or green toothpick, which makes it easier to get the right amount of pollen on the stigmatic lip. If you prefer to use the conventional brush, it will require extra care to avoid contamination. Dipping the brush in alcohol will kill any left over pollen. Just be sure to let it dry before using it again, or you'll also kill the new pollen.

#### Storage Times

Kept in a cool, dry room, pollen will remain viable up to three weeks. In the refrigerator, it will remain viable for the duration of a typical bloom season (up to six weeks). In the freezer, it can easily be held from one bloom season to the next. Seedlings have even been reported from pollen stored in the freezer for two and three years. This doesn't mean that the pollen will be good as new at the end of that time, but enough should remain viable to make use of the technique worthwhile.

#### A Home-made Dessicator

In more humid climates pollen may not dry properly, but this problem can be readily solved by building a small dessicator. You'll need a wide-mouth jar with a lid that will seal (such as a peanut butter jar), a piece of corrugated cardboard, and a few ounces of dessicant (such a silica gel). Put a one- to two-inch layer of dessicant in the bottom of the jar. (Be sure that the dessicant is dry, or reactivate it by placing the uncovered dessicator in a 250-degree oven for an hour, let it cool enough to handle, then screw the lid on to prevent absorption of moisture from the air.)

Cut a cardboard disc to fit the jar, punch a few small holes in it, and place it in the jar on top of the dessicant. To dry pollen, put it in a small container that is not air tight (such as a paper envelope or a capsule that has a small hole punched in each end) and place this inside the dessicator. The dessicator can be kept in the refrigerator for the duration of the bloom season. At the end of the season, after checking that the lid is on tight, it can be moved to the freezer and kept until next season.

#### RECOMMENDED READING

Brizendine, Roy. "Pollen Storage", 1964 ASI Yearbook, pp. 26-27. Holden, John. "Pollen Preservation", 1964 ASI Yearbook, pp. 27-29.

Niswonger, Dave. "What About Pollen?", AIS Bulletin #274 (July 1989), pp. 66-67.

The World of Irises, American Iris Society, 1978. Chapter 22, "Pollination and Seed Growing".

### **Judges — 1991**

These judges were not listed in the January Bulletin. G Mrs. Chester Blaylock — Region 18 AM Mrs. Leroy Duvall — Region 15

### **Iris Versicolor Development**

Monique Dumas-Quesnel and Tony Huber (Canada)

(Editor's Note: This is the conclusion of the article which first appeared in the October, 1990 Bulletin. For some reason, these paragraphs were omitted from the end of that publication.)

Parallel to all this, it would be quite interesting to examine closely the chromosomes of different plants which interest us, in order to establish the exact links and genetic origins of the species with which we are working and their hybrids. This could be done by advanced technology such as RFLP, such as has been done by American Researchers Bobby D. Bennett and Michael L. Arnold with Louisiana Iris (a project financed by an American Iris Society Research Grant).

Our development program is also concerned with the development of in vitro techniques of propagation and culture adapted to *Iris versicolor* and our hybrids. This work is being carried on concurrently by researchers of the Botanical Institute of the University of Montreal.

*Iris versicolor* and linked hybrids are virtually absent from the North American market. It seems, however, there is room for new introductions of this type and the market can be expanded. Furthermore, heightened interest in the environment conservation, wetland reclamation and pollution clean-up make *Iris versicolor* and its hybrids prime candidates for these efforts. This species is destined to gain a more enviable position in private and public gardens of the near future.

Those of you who will visit the gardens at the 1992 and 1993 Conventions of the AIS will see a few of our hybrids and selections.

# **Request for Information: AIS Robins**

Howard Brookins, Robin Chairman

As the newly appointed Robin Chairman, I am appealing to all AIS Members currently involved with Robins for help to get things moving again. All new members receive a card inviting them to become more involved and increase their knowledge about irises by joining a Robin. Many have been responding to this card, but I've been unable to get them into Robins of their choices, as for many categories I have no contact person or Robin Director. The post card lists the following categories for which I have no contact person: Spurias, Aril & Arilbred, Regional, Computer, and Arts & Crafts. If you are involved in any of these categories, please write me with information.

If you are interested in any of these categories and would like to become a member or Director of any of them, drop me a line. Perhaps we can get some of these Robins" flying" again. I note there is no Photography Robin at present, due to lack of interest. Yet many Section Bulletins have articles on Photography as pertains to irises, so there must be considerable interest in this field (my SECOND major hobby). I'm sure there are many people out there who would like to share their experiences in this field, so drop a note, and let's get things in gear.

Also, if you have a special interest you'd like to learn more about, let me know about it. Perhaps through further articles we can develop new communication lines to increase our knowledge in different fields. The list of Robins certainly isn't "set in cement." However, nothing can get started unless your needs and suggestions are heard.

If you have any Robin Information to pass on, contact me:

Howard L. Brookins N75 W14257 North Point Drive Menomonee Falls, WI 53051-4325 Phone: (414) 251-5292

### **Results of Directors' Election**

To the President of the American Iris Society

At your request, we have tabulated the results of the Board of Directors election of the American Iris Society. The procedures we applied are summarized as follows:

- —On a test basis, we examined the ballots mailed to ensure that all members were being sent ballots.
- —We independently mailed the ballots.
- —We received the ballots directly from the members and tabulated the results.

Based on the votes we received prior to November 1, 1990, the tabulation in order of highest votes is as follows:

Lillian Gristwood, Exhibitions Chairman	<u>1,581</u> Votes
Jeane Stayer, Secretary	1,565 Votes
Everette Lineberger, Section Liaison	1,518 Votes
Bennett Jones, Former Officer	1,475 Votes
Ramona Howard, Past RVP, Region 17	1,069 Votes

Meyers Brothers & Adeletti, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants

November 2, 1990

### The 1990 Japanese Iris Society Convention Report

**Bud Maltman (Delaware)** 

On July 11, I joined seven other members of the Diamond State Iris Society leaving Delaware to attend the 1990 Convention of the Society for Japanese Irises sponsored by the Maine Iris Society in Portland, Maine. We traveled together in a rented van, and after a very enjoyable trip, which included a delightful picnic near Hartford, Connecticut, and a side trip up the Coastal Highway in New Hampshire, we arrived at the Convention Headquarters in South Portland. Since we arrived in the late afternoon one day early for the Convention, we had a chance to rest a bit before the Convention began on July 12. But across the highway from the Sheraton Tara (Convention Headquarters) was Maine's largest shopping mall, and, of course, we had to check it out before retiring for the evening. We were not disappointed as the shopping there was excellent.

The next day the Convention began. We picked up our Convention information packets at the Registration Desk. Contained in the package were the Convention booklet, a show bulletin, and a name tag, which I thought was pretty neat. Instead of the usual holder with a safety pin attached to the back side for pinning to your clothing, this one had a thin elastic band attached to the top two corners of the holder. The elastic band was long enough to fit around the neck and held the name tag in the center of the chest at just the right height for others to read it. Other information given us included a complete listing of everyone attending the Convention, both names and addresses plus a map and guide brochure on mid-Coast Maine.

The highlight of this first Convention day was the Japanese Iris Show. This was to be a first for the Maine Iris Society, and it was very well done. The containers that held the cultivars were placed on rice mats located at random on the floor of the showroom with plenty of walking room to view each iris. Around the perimeter of the room were the arrangements and in one corner of the room was a planting arrangement showing Japanese irises growing with hostas and astilbes in a garden setting. Very good idea for a show.

Now to the information you really have been waiting to read about. What did the irises look like—right? Well, to begin with, KALAMAZOO was the Queen of Show. Other irises I wrote notes on at the show that I liked were FRILLED ENCHANTMENT, white with a red rim around each petal, SOUTHERN SUN, a true medium blue self, TRANCE, white with purple veining, PRAIRIE CHIEF, blue with darker blue veins, DOUBLE FIRST, a large white self, STRUT & FLOURISH, light violet background with blackish violet veins, and GUSTO, dark blue self, large white center and white veins. All of these irises received First Place blue ribbons.

In the late afternoon and before the welcome banquet, we attended a lecture by Tsutomu Yabuya, Miyazaki University, Miyasaki, Japan. His subject

was "Studies on the interspecific cross breeding of Japanese garden iris." It was quite a technical review of what he and others in Japan are doing to produce new varieties of Japanese garden iris. If I were a hybridizer of irises, I might have understood all the equations and chemical terms he used in his talk. As it was, he was over my head for my understanding what he was saying.

The Welcome Banquet was held in the hotel ballroom with approximately 250 people attending. As is most always the case, the dinner was excellent. After the dinner we had as our speaker Mr. Mototeru Kamo, Kamo Nurseries, Shizuoka, Japan. He told us of what has been going on in Japan in regard to Japanese garden irises and followed up by giving us a slide show of some very beautiful varieties of Japanese irises, The pinks, reds, yellows (crosses between I. ensata and I. pseudacorus) and blues were the best I have seen since becoming interested in this class of iris. Mr. Kamo was followed by Toyokazu Ichie, a hybridizer from Japan who has made significant breakthroughs in crossing I. ensata hybrids and I. pseudacorus. His slides were also outstanding.

The next morning we began our first day of garden touring. Since I had only one really blue Japanese iris in my own garden, I primarily looked for other good blues to add to it. Therefore, my notes on the garden irises were devoted to what I liked that were blue. The first garden was at the home of Warren and Marie Hazelton, Norway, Maine. OCEAN MIST and BLUE MARLIN (a 6-petal ruffled blue violet self) were in bloom, looking good in medium size clumps. ORIENTAL EYES, light violet changing to grey white at the petal edges, yellow signals surrounded by a purple halo which extends as veining. This Adolph Vogt iris was growing well in every garden where it was a guest with large size clumps and lots of bloom. Also in this garden was a John White seedling 86-L7, a true medium blue self which definitely should be an introduction soon. John is a member of the Maine Society, and we visited his garden on tour later that day. There were many guest irises from Japan planted here, but, unfortunately, not many were in bloom.

Next, we went to the Bernard McLaughlin garden, South Paris, Maine. This man has it all. Besides Japanese irises, he had bearded irises, daylilies, narcissus, primulas, lilacs, ferns, many hosta varieties, and perennials and trees of all kinds. The guest Japanese irises I have notes on are CAPANEAUS, a Sterling Innerst 1987 introduction that has six petals and is a ruffled, deep velvety red self. This is one I hope to get some day. ORIENTAL EYES again looked good as did RUFFLED DIMITY, ruffled pale lilac with deep navy blue purple veins, also six petals.

Our third garden was at the home of John and Evelyn White. Evelyn was the Registrar for the Convention. Here we saw over 700 varieties of bearded irises, nearly 80 Siberians. These were not blooming, of course, and nearly 100 Japanese irises with most of them blooming. With all of this gardening work, this garden layout and the rest of their landscape was as neat as a pin. Here I saw his blue Seedling 87L7 doing great. Anna Mae Miller's 1988

introductions, RASPBERRY GEM and ROSE FRAPPE took my eye. RASP-BERRY GEM is a six-petal red violet self with yellow signals and ROSE FRAPPE is a three-petal white with medium violet veins. Standards and styles are red violet. Both are worthy for any garden.

At the Moor's iris garden we saw another large planting of irises, daylilies, and another large collection of perennials. Perennials certainly do well in that Maine climate. TRANCE, a 1978 Warburton iris with three petals that had violet blue standards and pale violet falls with darker violet veining was blooming well.

After Moor's, we went to the last garden of the day. The Glenara Nurseries is owned and operated by George and Carol Boyce in Auburn, Maine. Their landscape included fruit and nut trees, berries, wild flowers, and ponds. Surrounding the ponds were the Japanese irises along with many other perennials. Here I saw *Prairie Chief*, a silvery blue violet bitone, darker veining, and dark blue-violet halo in good bloom. Also ROSE ANNA, 6-petal red self ended up on my note pad as one to remember in the future. It is an oldie, but goodie, dating back to 1924. I was surprised to find one that old that would still be around, but I understand that this is common when dealing with the Japanese irises.

After dinner Jill Copeland had a discussion on the standards for judging Japanese irises and passed out changes and additions to the Judges handbook on Garden and Exhibition Judging Japanese Irises. The evening ended with John White showing slides of the Convention irises to be auctioned.

Saturday, July 14th, was the last day of the Convention, and we boarded the buses for garden tours again. The first garden was the Pope Gardens. Shirley Pope is the R.V.P. of Region I and was Convention Chairman. Her garden was well cared for with the iris beds arranged in a display format. The Japanese irises were all blooming well and for added color she had planted an upfacing lily called ORANGE SHERBET along the sides of each iris bed at widely spaced intervals. This is where the McEwen irises are growing for the retail market and there were some large plantings of most varieties. One especially good planting was a variety named SOUTHERN SUN, a 1989 McEwen diploid having six falls. This was the closest to a true medium blue self as I have seen. Anyone looking for a good blue with excellent form and substance, this is it. Another name I find in my notes is POPULAR DEMAND, a 1988 tetraploid with pinstripe type blue veins on three white falls. Standards were wine red with a fine white edge. Well branched and very nice. CONTINUING PLEASURE, a full violet blue with wide, nearly white, lines and six petals was nice as was KATY MENDEZ named after Dr. McEwen's granddaughter. This iris is another of his 1989 introductions and is a diploid with six petals of medium size that are violet with dark veins. Very striking. EXUBERANT CHANTEY, a 1990 McEwen, was very nice. It is another 6-petal iris and is a velvety violet-blue self, ruffled with yellow signals.

Next was the Bibber garden in Gorham, Maine. There I saw another clump of OCEAN MIST doing quite well as was ROSE QUEEN, the iris that won Queen of Show in Manassas last year. PRAIRIE TWILIGHT, a 3-petal lavender

blue bitone with darker veining starting at the yellow signal then fading to lighter blue at the petal edges was very nice. LILAC PEAKS, a nice white with violet veining, ROSE PRELUDE, a rose pink self, and PINK DIMITY, a lightly ruffled medium pink with light maroon veining were also looking good.

The third garden was the Treworgy gardens. This place was large with at least 30 acres of land and mostly trees and mixed perennials. Only a few Japanese irises were placed here. Of those that were guests GARNET ROY-ALTY, a 1984 Lorena Reid introduction, had good bloom of deep maroon color and ruffled.

Now it was time to go to the highlight of our trip to Maine. Around noon we arrived at the McEwen gardens in South Harpswell. I had always wanted to visit here and I finally made it. I'm sure many others came to the Convention for the same reason.

The McEwen garden is primarily a working garden as the marketing work is done by others—Shirley Pope on the Japanese and most recent Siberians and Steve Jones on the other Siberians. It is arranged mainly in three gardens. Garden A has McEwen Siberians and daylilies, Garden B, which is much larger, has the Siberian seedlings, some Japanese seedlings, Payne medal winners, and McEwen introductions, and further to the south is Garden C. Here is where more McEwen Japanese seedlings and the guest irises from Kamo Nurseries were planted. CELESTIAL PINK, a pink self, SWIRLING WAVES, a violet bitone, and LE CORDON BLEU, a light ultramarine violet self with six petals took my eye.

While we were looking over all the irises, Jill Copeland was tutoring a class on Garden Judging. Several members from Region 3 participated in the judges' training. After the training we had the clam bake and lobster picnic. I lived in New Hampshire years ago and attended several of these affairs, and I have seen none better than the one we had here. Everything given us was good and there was plenty of it.

When our meal was finished, Clarence Mahan, President, Society for Japanese iris started the plant auction. The auction was quite successful and Clarence did his usual outstanding job of keeping the bidding going and in a pleasant way with a lot of humor as it went along. Before the auction started Clarence announced the favorite garden and favorite guest iris voting results. They were TRANCE and ORIENTAL EYES, respectively. The two iris varieties that brought in the most dollars at the auction were SAYO-NO-TUKI, a beautiful iris with three white falls. Blue-violet stitching surrounds the light yellow signals with blue-violet lines in the signal and into the falls. This iris can be seen on Plate No. 26 in the recently published book entitled *The Japanese Iris* by Dr. Currier McEwen. The second iris was another beauty from Japan called HATSUHO, a beautiful yellow self with dark red brown streaks from the signal area down through the falls. Both were donated by Mr. Kamo, Kamo Nurseries, Japan. These introductions are unique in that they are both fertile tetraploid crosses of an I. pseudacorus and I. ensata.

During the auction Clarence Mahan presented a very nice wall plaque and lifetime memberships to the Japanese Iris Society to Adolph Vogt, Currier McEwen, and Lee Welsh (Editor of the *Review*) for their dedication and outstanding service to Japanese irises.

When the auction was over, we boarded our buses and went back to the hotel as that ended the Convention, and what a great Convention it was. The irises were at peak bloom and were looking their best. The weather was perfect and I am sure from the happy faces I saw, everyone had a wonderful time. There were so many good varieties doing just great in that Maine soil and climate that it would almost take a small booklet to cover them all and describe their beauty to you. If you have not attended a Japanese iris convention, I heartily recommend that you do. Besides enjoying the gardens, I have found the officers and members of this great section of the A.I.S. to be some of the friendliest people I have ever been associated with.

### Contemporary Views— Medians and Louisianas

Perry Dyer (Oklahoma)

#### **MEDIANS**

MINIATURE TALL BEARDEDS: Admittedly, my least favorite class, but I acknowledge their extreme popularity. The voting in the Williamson-White class this year was among the most difficult decisions I've ever made in my 18 years as a judge, with all three of the top vote-getters deserving of the award (and I predict all three will eventually make it). My choice this year was the winner of last year's 9-1-1 Award, NEW WAVE (Hager '86). This clean, pure white tet has consistently produced the best flowers, with substance never seen before in the class. They are wide, yet still graceful enough to be charming. Contrasting yellow beards are a plus. Above average, healthier plant habits than other tets released thus far, and show stalks supreme. In its own way, CRYSTAL RUFFLES (Dunderman '86) is just as significant (it is diploid) and certainly as charming. Slender, proportionate stalks display cool white florets that hint at its plicata heritage in the shoulders, if you look closely. WELCH'S REWARD (Welch-Hall '88) was very popular in Omaha. The best of the PRETENDER color pattern (yellow standards, purple falls), but the falls have a yellow edging that really enlivens the flower. ZULA (Fisher '90) was seen in Omaha also, but was still under number on the tag. A cinnamon brown plicata, with just a little bit of plicata sanding in the falls. JOLLY JIM (Dunderman '88) is a pert white self with contrasty deep golden-orange beards. Superb shape. LADY OF MARIETTA (T. Varner '88) is a clear yellow with white falls crisply edged in yellow. It will have occasional purple markings in the falls upon first opening (especially in cooler, wet weather), but these quickly disappear after the sun hits the flower. Classics: CHICKEE (Dunderman '80); DOLL RIBBONS (Dunderman '78); PUPPY LOVE (Hager '80 TET).

BORDER BEARDEDS: No BB stood out above the others this year. But the nod for best BB here this year went to PECCADILLO (Keppel '83). Still my favorite of the many great BB plicatas from Keith. Even in a year when TBs and BBs averaged only about 50% bloom due to the late freeze, PECCADILLO's branching remained consistent with the good years—3 branches, double socketed, and absolutely in class (flower size, stalk height, thickness of stalk, and foliage). Less susceptible to the woes of soft rot that plague many of its TB plicata contemporaries. PECCADILLO's standards are a gentle, pleasing shade of salmon to peach, with cream to pale peach based plicata falls, delicately washed and sanded a harmonious light violet. PINK BUBBLES (Hager '80) is still great, and many of us actually like it better than its muchheralded, worthy sister, BEVERLY SILLS. Tight, compact form, with just enough ruffles and lace to make it one charming iris. FIDDLER (Stahly '84) is the one I'm just now discovering, and I respect its ability to remain true to class the more I grow and observe it. A simply stated maroon to red bitone that is close to being a self. CLASSIC TREASURE (Burger '84) does grow out of class sometimes, but I have seen it at the proper height more often than not. A cold, icy white with a dazzling edge of blue on only the falls. Always has slender, graceful, well-branched stalks. The consistency of NAUTICAL FLAG (Black '89) is remindful of SOFT SPOKEN, with tight little compact flowers with rounded, horizontal falls. A lavender-blue self, fading to near-white around the harmonious yellow beards. All capped with tight lace. FRIZZY LIZZY (Weiler '89) was pagan in Omaha, with bright screaming orange flowers, completely encased in heaviest lace. Unfortunately, its plants were skimpy (as many of its orange BB predecessors were), bud count was minimal, and branching toedin—another defect common to this color. But what a sizzling flower! Classics: MARMALADE SKIES (Niswonger '78); PICAYUNE (Keppel '77); SOME-THING SPECIAL (Hager '78).

INTERMEDIATE BEARDEDS: This is the hot class with the most rapid advancement. It is obvious that the judges are rightfully taking note of what's happening, with an IB being 1st runnerup to the Dykes this year, and TWO IBs being runnersup last year. Many are reviewed here, and all are a cut above in quality and personality. HELLCAT (Aitken '83), as mentioned in the Sun Belt Award section, is still the leader, and now it has received its much-deserved Sass Medal. MAUI MOONLIGHT (Aitken '87) was my Cook Cup choice in Omaha, where we saw huge, vigorous clumps of this over and over. One of the cleanest light yellows you'll see—an absolute self (no white in the falls), down to the beard. Outstanding branching and bud count. And MORNING SHOW (Ensminger '88) was my choice for the President's Cup in Omaha! (There were plenty of TBs seen to compete with these two IBs!). A bright, cheery, cherry red with self beards with some black hairs in them to add intensity. The color is closest to the Louisiana iris, F.A.C. McCULLA, and in no way should even be compared to the other great red IB on the market, RED ZINGER, because they are totally different in color and style. A marvelous median. Ensminger's streaked HUBBUB ('89) has already been reviewed under the 9-1-1 Award section. His BLUE-EYED BLOND ('89) was also very attractive, and a signifi-

cant hybridizing achievement in and of itself: A clean, crisp light yellow with rich, deep blue beards. The form isn't as wide or as finished as others reviewed, but still acceptable and pleasing to the eye. SHOOTING SPARKS (Black '89) has already been reviewed under the Contemporary Award section, and is one of the best new IBs. You can expect to see many more fine IB plicatas in the near future from the CHUBBY CHEEKS line. HOT SPICE (Aitken '89) is a sizzling new, well-shaped plicata in the style of BUTTER PECAN, but with more intense, deeper plicating in both the standards and falls. HOT WHEELS (Black '90) is a fun new bicolor plicata. Standards are almost solidly colored in orchid to tan. The falls are a creamy white, then edged with a traditional thick band of red-purple, very evenly applied, but then "bleeding" into the white ground in the center. Another progeny from the CHUBBY CHEEKS bloodline. WHITE CHAPEAU (Blodgett '89) was seen in Omaha, and shows promise of being the best and brightest of the yellow amoenas. A very clean color combo on broad but proportionate flowers. WHITE LILACS (Warburton '84) has been overlooked. A heavily ruffled icy white with bluelavender (lilac) undertones that inherited its superb vigor, branching, and bud count from the great blue TB, FULL TIDE. Absolutely unique is Bee's DARK BLIZZARD (also '84), the only modern "luminata" IB I'm aware of. Deepest spectrum violet standards over fancy patterned falls that are whitebased, then washed, sanded and shot with black throughout. The white area around the light beard gives the suggestion of luminate breeding. ALL RIGHT (Hager '88) is a bright orange with pleasing form and good substance. It has an even deeper orange beard. Very hardy. A more subtle orange is OBLI-GATO (Stahly '88), a sherbet orange with the magnificent branching and bud count of its parent, MARMALADE SKIES. A big hit in Oklahoma this spring at the Paul Black garden. Superior plant habits, also. A well shaped, medium orange with deeper beards is SUNNY HONEY (Shoop '85). Great visual impact in the garden, and nicely formed. PIECE OF CAKE (Hager '89), blooming here on first year plants, showed promise of being a fine addition to the "barely plic" group of IBs, almost a solid baby pink cake frosting with suggestions of plicata markings in only the shoulders. NIGHT SHIFT (Aitken '86) is the richest spectrum violet, wide, and with absolutely no haft markings. Good bud count and plant habits, but its chief defect has been that it blooms a bit short to be truly proportionate. Nonetheless, a classy iris. And I must mention ART GALLERY, introduced by me for Bennett Jones in '84. A rare, scarce IB that is white with a huge bright orange spot in the center of the falls. Finicky and cantankerous, but when it settles down, it is one impressive iris. For us, it won Best Median at both shows in which it was entered. Blooms very late in the median season—well into the TB season. Worth the extra effort (and extra prayers!). Classics: BLACK WATCH (Rosenfels '72); OF COURSE (Hager '79); RARE EDITION (Gatty '80); SILENT STRINGS (Dyer '79).

STANDARD DWARF BEARDEDS: Some surprises this year! I had somehow missed these first ones in previous years, but have now added them to my garden: PURE ALLURE (Ritchie '87) is an absolutely pure white, chaste with no other color, and with the classic form of its COTTON BLOSSOM

heritage. LIME MIST (Willott '88) is a well formed near-amoena, with white standards and falls, but the falls lightly washed in lime-green, giving the visual impression of a light green amoena. Superb substance and plant habits. Fancy-patterned SDB plicatas are rather rare, but a fine contribution to this group is COURT MAGICIAN (Nichols '85), a white ground plicata, heavily washed and sanded in varying degrees of royal violet, ever deepening towards the edges of the petals. A bit short sometimes. WOODLING (Sobek '85) was a big hit at the Boston Median Muster in '89, and is one of the most unusual dwarfs I've ever seen. An odd concoction of colors, all blended into a tapestry of earth tones: Light greenish-gold, purple undertones, dark brown spots in the falls, and another underlay of charcoal. Vibrant—not muddy at all. The form isn't fat and rounded, yet the petal shape, in harmony with its colors, leaves a most desirable impact. Even more oddly, this is from orange and laced yellow breeding! BELLE PLAINE (Lankow '84) is a beautiful, shapely ivory self with yellow beards straight from COTTON BLOSSOM. A very warm. classical offering. Another COTTON BLOSSOM derivative from Carol is BROAD GRIN ('87), a creamy amber-pink with yellow undertonings. The emphasis is its smoothness and wide petals. It doesn't exhibit the heavyblooming tendencies so many pink dwarfs are plagued with. Two other pinks were most promising: PINK CRYSTAL (Willott '86) is the prettiest, clearest light pink I have seen. It has excellent form and substance. I have seen and grown it when it completely bloomed out, but the increase/bloom ratio was proper this season. KANDI MOON (Blyth '86) is a fine attempt at a blue-bearded pink. A shrimp to coral pink self with purple beards tipped azure blue. Worlds of breeding potential. After much anticipation, the rare black luminata, BLACK STAR (Warburton '84) was found, acquired, and bloomed well. I found it to have fine growth habits, even though I had been warned it was finicky. Clean, vigorous healthy plants with leaves that are thinner and more true to proportion than some SDBs on the market. BLACK STAR is deepest violet to jet black, then highlighted in the heart of the flower with white beards and a white luminata pattern. The first of its kind. Several SDBs compete today with the best of the IBs for top honors overall in the medians. The quality is just unbelievable. I predict there will be a Dykes Medalist in one of these classes sometime during this decade. The great blue, BAY RUFFLES (Warburton '85), the vivacious variegata, JAZZAMATAZZ (Blyth '86), and the classic plicata, CHUBBY CHEEKS (Black '85) were reviewed in the awards sections. AZURE GEM (Hamblen '82), a pale blue with deep azure blue beards, joins this elite group. I was deeply disappointed at the outcome of this year's Cook-Douglas balloting, for AZURE GEM is the standard in form and finish by which to judge SDBs today. Several new SDBs show great promise for becoming popular additions to any median garden: WELL SUITED (Black '90) is a welcomed return to a type of SDB color pattern, once very popular, that has been neglected—a rich, formal, velvet purple, with a deeper spot in the falls approaching black. The entire flower is enveloped in a glossy lacquer. PRIV-ILEGED CHARACTER (Black '90) will make a great mate for BLACK STAR. Basically a silvery-white ground plicata, but washed overall with light violet

(like Ensminger's TB, PANDORA'S PURPLE), then heavily edged deep grape purple. Another fascinating avenue that CHUBBY CHEEKS offers. This one has outstanding growth habits, with 1 to 2 branches and 3 to 4 buds. SASS WITH CLASS (Black '89) is a zany color show, with yellow standards and falls, but then the falls heavily tiger-striped brilliant maroon, deepening towards the edges. The form is very shapely. The impact is the excitement of a new color combo, rather than the horror of a gaudy mini-frankenstein! Wonderfully colorfast. SILK PETALS (Black '88) is my favorite of Paul's whites, a rather large but still proportionate, broad waxy white with a satin sheen and softest blue beards. Substance like no other SDB. A hint of palest butter yellow in the standards' midribs gives warmth to the flower. PATACAKE (Black '89) is the best "orange" SDB today. Actually a clear creamy apricot-peach, then topped with a deeper orange beard. Hardy, thin foliage produces stalks carrying 2 branches and 4 buds—thin and graceful yet stronger than its grandparent, MELON HONEY. DARK VADER (Miller '87) is a wide, rich black near-self, with the standards just a tone lighter than the falls. Lightly ruffled and waved. So far overlooked, SMALL RITUAL (Hager '88) is a dwarf version of the unique bicolor TB, DARK RITUAL-deepest crimson standards and velveteen black falls, capped with bluish beards. A rich, sultry color combo. Classics: APRICOT ELF (Hamblen '79); DIXIE PIXIE (B. Jones '78); HELTER SKELTER (Dyer '78); MICHAEL PAUL (W. Jones '79).

#### **LOUISIANAS**

A wretched year to attempt a review. The mid-March freeze was especially harmful to the Louisiana bloom in Oklahoma, with only about one-third of the blooming-sized rhizomes producing stalks. Those that bloomed were shorter and inferior in bud positions and count. The temperatures during Louisiana peak in Blanchard were high, a rude awakening after the cold weather during bearded bloom season. Then, most of the bloom occurred while we were gone to the national convention in Omaha. We did take the trip Down South again this year to Lafayette, Louisiana, to the annual convention of the Society for Louisiana Irises, so we got to see a few new things there. In Lafayette, two of Dorman Haymon's new introductions stole the show: FESTIVAL'S ACAD-IAN, named in commemoration of the flower festival held at the same time as our iris convention this year, was very popular, and nearly won Best of Show during the iris show! A bright colorful blending of reds and purple, with yellow shot through. Then, inherited from its parent, CHARJOY'S MIKE, all segments are offset with a contrasting halo in yellow. Lilting form, with ruffled, flat petals. EMPRESS JOSEPHINE is a sib to the great GRACE DUHON (Haymon '88). Choosing between these two offspring from (FULL ECLIPSE X ANN CHOWN-ING) would be difficult. EMPRESS JOSEPHINE is an even deeper approach to black, with the standards just a shade lighter than the royal black falls. The classical flat form of ANN CHOWNING predominated this cross, and the EMPRESS has the best shape. Large bright yellow steeple signals from ANN CHOWNING just serve to enhance the glossy finish of the falls all the more. Captivating! Another rising star, first mentioned in last year's review still under number, is DEIDRE KAY, to be released by Marvin Granger via Bobo Faggard in '91. A huge elegant blending of lilac, lavender, and pink, with a predominant sunburst ray pattern of cream to sunshine yellow outpouring over the falls. Then, the entire flower is filagreed with fine picotee lace that is still very rare in Louisiana irises. This is the introduction to watch for next year, although Marvin will have three or four other excellent releases in '91 also. One of my favorites is EXQUISITE LADY (Owen '87), a unique mid-blue with a concentrated silver halo on all floral parts. Most exciting! I can't wait to see what kind of parent it is, especially when crossed with the CHARJOY'S MIKE bloodline. One new tetraploid gives the best of the Mertzweiller releases some stiff competition: COORABELL (Raabe via Melrose Gardens '88). Directly from Joe's tet blood, this import from Down Under is the ultimate in lustrous velvet royal purple tets. Extremely heavy substance, yet it unrolls and opens as it should—a trait which some of the tets have had difficulty with. Broad, expansive, rich flowers are embellished with huge bright yellow steeple signals. Two diploids from Bob Raabe are meritorious: SINFONIETTA ('87 via Melrose) is one of the most beautiful shades of blue in irisdom—an agua to nearly turquoise light to mid-blue. Growth and vigor are perfect. And GERRY MAR-STELLAR ('88 via Melrose) is a different shade of shimmering pink—reminiscent of the coloration of the pink TB, PINK TAFFETA. Substance, sunfastness, and carrying power in the garden are commendable. A relative unknown hybridizer from Opelousas (just north of Lafayette) is Neil Bertinot. He has released several high-quality Louisianas in the past 5 years, but the most worthy is JERI ('85), and I'm pleased to see that this child of FULL ECLIPSE is finally getting some of the recognition it deserves. It is a full black self with the finish of patent leather, with a tiny yellow line signal. Tall, graceful stalks are thin but support the weight of the flowers. Produces quite a show stalk; it won Best of Show at Lafayette this year. HURRICANE PARTY (Haymon '88) will fool you. With its broad, rounded form, thick petals, and lush blue-green foliage, you would swear it was a tetraploid. Huge full red-violet flowers are placed on thick zigzag stalks, with each branch flower opening in perfect position. Another child of the great ANN CHOWNING. SUN FLARE (Haymon '90) is a tall, imposing brilliant yellow (approaching gold) that is totally sunfast. Ruffled and flared, with incredible bud count and placement on the stalks. And lastly, KAY NELSON (Granger '89), considered by many as the most beautiful of the newer Louisiana releases. Basically a lavender self, but totally underlaid with a warm pink glow. Classical compact form with horizontally flaring falls. As with DEIDRE KAY, all petals are intricately serrated, to the point that many of us consider it "lace". A beautiful iris name by a true southern gentleman for a true gentle lady. Pure class!

### On the Dykes Medal Vote

Ben R. Hager (California)

Let me put it bluntly! I am not happy with the board of directors' ruling on the percentage of votes necessary for the purpose of awarding the prestigious DYKES MEDAL. In fact, at this moment, I am not happy with the board of directors (Note: no capital letters). From the evidence I have been able to gather, there was not enough thought or research backing the decision to allow any iris that receives the greatest number of votes in the balloting—no matter if the vote did not meet that standard of 15% or more of the votes cast—to lay claim to the, again I repeat, *prestigious* Dykes Medal.

Let's again take a quick look at the history of the presentation of the Dykes Medal: The first Dykes medal was awarded in England to MARGO HOLMES an interspecific *beardless* iris hybrid that we would now class as a Cal-Sib. Such a hybrid is no longer eligible.

Later an arilbred, WILLIAM MOHR, received the Dykes Medal in the USA. At that time there was no classification for "arilbred" irises. It was just another tall and bearded iris. There was no thought at that time of challenging it on the hybrid nature of the clone.

More recently a Border Bearded iris was the recipient of the Dykes Medal: BROWN LASSO—an iris that is well known to outgrow its Border iris classification and reach up into the Tall Bearded height range. So can we truly consider it as *not* a Tall Bearded iris? Don't misunderstand me: I do believe Brown Lasso deserved the medal.

There were other times when the Dykes Medal was awarded for other reasons. CHERIE won it in 1951. It was from a line of a new color: PINK. The color was not an exclusive development by David Hall but his was the major contribution to its appearance. David Hall himself stated at the awards ceremony that he felt that the award was made to his breeding program rather than to that one iris from the program.\* CHERIE was not a great iris at the time, but it was PINK.

Paul Cook received two Dykes Medals for irises from the two lines in which he specialized. The first a black, SABLE NIGHT 1955. The second for WHOLE CLOTH 1962, which was a representative of a wholly original line of dominant amoena pattern developed from the use of TB x Iris reichenbachii (yellow form). Cook had some question about the identity of the species he used. It seems more likely that it was a form of Iris balkana, the tetraploid form of the diploid Iris reichenbachii. The iris resulting from the cross was registered PROGENITOR in 1951 but never officially introduced though widely distributed and listed in catalogs. It is a tetraploid which might be a verification of the above assumption; of course, tetraploids have happened, certainly, from tetraploid x diploid crosses.

Paul Cook died shortly after receiving his second Dykes Medal, but two years later his iris ALLEGIANCE received the judges' vote for the award. ALLEGIANCE was without doubt a fine iris, but the thought at the time was

that the award was more in the nature of a memorial to a great hybridizer.

So, basically, the Dykes Medal has been and still remains a Tall Bearded iris award. Why shouldn't it be designated so?

Now wait a minute. I'm hardly the one to be tagged with the label "prejudiced." Look at my record. I've bred and introduced in all the categories. And not because of commercial interests; the "other thans" are not all that great when it comes to sales. I love them all, and nothing can stop me from pollenizing them prodigiously. All irises are great—forget commercialism.

Now, let's analyze the awards for these "other thans." Border, Intermediate, Standard Dwarf, Miniature Dwarf, Siberian, and Louisiana awards have recently been elevated to MEDALS which are equal to the Dykes Medal in the voting procedure. The other categories not on that list have not arisen to the Medal stage because of fewer introductions. An iris must first be awarded the Honorable Mention (HM), then the Award of Merit (AM) and then one of the AM recipients can be voted the Medal for the class. This is exactly the procedure in voting that leads to the Dykes Medal, but Tall Bearded irises get the short end. The "other thans" get an extra medal before they are eligible for the Dykes Medal. The "Other Thans" get this extra attention. Why should this be so? Why not make the arbitrary statement that these medals ARE EQUAL to the Dykes Medal for the various classes? Medals should also be established for the other sections with special rulings for which and when these irises should receive the medal. (We can go into all of that later). Then let the Dykes Medal itself be what it essentially is: a Tall Bearded Award.

The big problem, from where I view it, is that there are so many irises now on the list for the Dykes Medal that the voting is fractionated to the point where at times no iris can achieve the high place with 15% or more of the votes cast. Removing these other Medal irises from the list of eligibles should tend to concentrate the votes among the fewer contenders to the point where the accumulated vote count will be higher for each iris on the list of vote getters.

There is another possible problem. If the judges are voting for their "favorite iris" rather than applying the "standards" which the label "judge" should indicate they should be doing, we might as well divest our Society of the expense of the ballot and the training sessions and just give the awards by way of the Popularity Poll.

What of the poor orphans, the Beardless Irises? Are they not to be considered as *irises* in the listing of *iris* for the top *IRIS* award? If there is to be one Top Award for irises, then the beardless irises should be on the list along with the "Other Than" bearded irises.

Another suggestion entered by Sid DuBose is that the judges should vote for THREE irises from the eligible list with the award going to the one iris with the most votes. He is also of the opinion that along with this method the required percentage of votes for the Medal should be raised to 20%.

Distribution is the greatest problem. With the ever increasing number of irises being introduced to the market each year, how can any one judge see them all? I find myself doubting my ability to adequately make judgments

when faced with the list of eligible nominees listed on the ballot, many of which I haven't even heard of and we grow and see a great many irises every year. Perhaps the eligibility period should also be lengthened—say from four to five years instead of three.

To the hybridizers in our Society, the Dykes Medal is the "Holy Grail" of the iris world, much to be sought after and revered. The other Medals should also be so considered and equally revered. I notice that the board of directors is not predominantly made up of Hybridizers. Could it be that the other members, not being Hybridizers, do not feel the same reverence for the awards? It must be so if they can so quickly change the rules in such a degrading manner. The Dykes Medal and all the other Medals should remain at the 15% or more level so that they maintain a significance—otherwise scrapped. The Standard Dwarf Medal was not awarded in 1989 because no variety received the 15% of the votes as required at that time, and that is as it should be.

I have made a vow to myself. If one of my irises should again be honored by the judges with a Dykes Medal vote and it has received less than the 15% vote, I will not accept the award.

Since I am complaining why not go whole hog? Just as my irises had already won all the awards available (except for my own state iris), what happened? They snuck those Medals in for the "Other Thans" in on me. At my age—it ain't fair!

\*I have this information from reports only. I was not there.

# Preparing a Convention Garden

Allan Ensminger (Nebraska)

Congratulations, the Convention Committee has so much confidence in your ability to grow superb Irises in your beautiful garden that you have been asked to have a Host Garden for the many Irises that will be sent to your convention site by Iris Hybridizers from all over the United States.

Hopefully, the Convention Committee has given you at least three years' prior notice so that you can make the necessary changes to accommodate the 300 varieties, more or less, that may be assigned to you. A convention garden is a once-in-a-lifetime major event, and you will want your garden to be attractive with the guest Irises all alive and blooming beautifully on "T" Day (Tour Day). If you are given sufficient lead time, you can have a well-organized garden with adequate walking space between beds so that convention visitors may view the Irises without crowding.

If your garden is large enough, it is appropriate to plant the guest Irises in beds that are three feet wide with six foot walking paths between beds to accommodate the Convention visitors who will be traveling in both directions and viewing the beds from both sides.

Now comes the difficult part of your project. At least 90 percent of your guests will be tetraploid Tall Bearded Irises. These 48 chromosome TB Irises have genetic memories of the thousands of years that they grew wild in the

Middle East with wet springs, hot dry summers and mildly cold, snowy and slushy winters. These are the conditions that TB Irises seem to like best. You say that you don't have these conditions. Well, hardly anybody does.

But this is not the extent of your problem. Hybridizers don't have these conditions either, and they are likely to select and use as parents those Irises that grow best in their own back yard.

So you are faced with growing to perfection Irises that originate in Santa Cruz, California; Cape Girardeau, Missouri; Huntsville, Alabama; Tacoma, Washington; Roy, Utah; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Radford, Virginia; Westfield, Massachusetts; etc., etc. Reason tells you that you can't control the weather, and that the mini-climate that you have in your garden isn't like the conditions in the Hybridizers' gardens from all over the United States. So you have to make the best with what you have and provide conditions that are at least tolerable for the guest Irises assigned to you.

#### A Wet Spring

TB Irises do most of their growing in the 6 to 7 weeks prior to blooming. It is during this period that soil fertility is important, and plenty of water should be available. You will want to supplement normal rainfall during this period of fast growth to the extent that the guest beds will have one inch of precipitation per week. It is best that you do this with soaking hoses rather than overhead sprinklers. As you know, wet foliage is conducive to the spread of fungal leaf spot.

#### A Hot, Dry Summer

TB Irises bloom their very best the spring following a hot, dry summer. If your weather doesn't cooperate the best, what you can do is to provide raised beds so there will be good drainage and wide plant spacing so that the warmth of the sun can get to the top of the rhizomes.

Landscape timbers laid in parallel rows three feet apart, filled with soil crowned at the center several inches higher than the timbers, will provide good drainage. The summer showers will run off rather than soak in, helping you maintain dry summer condition.

Grass walk-ways are nice, but if you must water the Iris patch in the summer to keep the grass in the walkways alive, you will be reducing the amount of bloom the following spring.

These three-feet wide beds should give ample growing space for two rows of guest Irises planted at least two feet apart.

The plants in one row should be staggered with the plants in the other row so that the foliage of one plant does not shade the base of another. Ample sun light is very important. If your guest beds cannot be in full sun, they should have six hours or more of afternoon sun.

#### Snow Cover the Whole Winter Through

After Irises experience the first severe winter weather, they are likely to perceive the next spell of mild weather to be the first days of spring. That week

of spring in January can induce the earlier TB varieties to begin growing, and this soft, new growth may be severely damaged by the below freezing temperatures that follow in February.

So if winter-long snow cover is not likely in your garden, you should substitute with a mulch of pine needles, or prairie hay or woodchips or some other material that won't compact during the winter. This mulch will help to keep the soil cold and frozen during the mild temperatures that may trigger winter growth.

#### Soil Fertility

How do you provide sufficient soil fertility to sustain good growth but avoid the lush growth that can result in rot and other Iris illnesses? Every host gardener wants to grow the guest Irises to be their very best, and this is like balancing an egg on the edge of a knife. A little too much in the way of goodies can result in disaster. Irises can be killed with too much tender, loving care.

If the guest beds can be constructed in the spring three years prior to the Convention, it will give you an opportunity to build a bed with added fertility. Then grow vegetables and/or annual flowers that first year to mellow the soil and to take off the peak availability of soil additives.

In constructing the guest bed, you may want to temporarily leave off the end timbers.

First, apply a liberal layer of compost or aged manure and till it in. Then, make an application of chemical fertilizer and till it in. Finally, replace the end timbers and fill the bed with top soil to overflowing.

This bed should maintain its fertility for the first year of vegetable growing, through the second year when the guest Irises are becoming established, until the spring of the third year, the year of the Convention, when you may want to give the guest Irises a side dressing of fertilizer as they begin their spring growth.

#### A Fertilizer That Works Well in Nebraska

200 lbs of 13-13-13

250 lbs of granular gypsum

50 lbs of 46-0-0

50 lbs of 0-0-46

25 lbs of Magnesium (Epsom Salts)

#### Approximate formula:

Calcium	CA	10%
Potash	K <sub>2</sub> 0	81/2%
Nitrogen	N	81/2%
Phosphoric Acid	$P_{2}O_{5}$	41/2%
Magnesium	Mg	4%

This fertilizer is mixed using ingredients purchased from the local COOP.

There is some evidence that Irises love calcium. Gypsum is the source of calcium in this fertilizer since it does not increase the soil's PH, and it has the added advantage of making clay soil more friable.

One other consideration—We don't spray much because we are able to burn off the Irises in the spring. The burning off of all of the foliage destroys the borer eggs and the leaf spot spores. But if you can't burn off, remember that spraying is a preventive measure. The guest beds should have a routine program of spraying so that they will be disease-free on "T" Day.

When the foliage is covered with leaf spot, and the borers have descended to the rhizome, it is too late to spray.

#### In Conclusion

These are supposed to be helpful suggestions for the prospective gardener of an AIS Convention Garden. It is written from the experience gained over a period of 40 years of growing Irises in Lincoln, Nebraska. The writer recognizes that all of the practices suggested are not applicable on the West Coast, the Deep South or in the Northeast.

The intent of the Convention Garden is to display the hybridizers' newest introductions, growing and blooming their very best in a garden situation that allows them to be viewed by a large group of people with the least amount of confusion. Hopefully, this dissertation will help the prospective Convention gardener to accomplish this and experience the joy and satisfaction of successfully growing many beautiful Irises.

# Book Review: Iris Laevigata by Akira Horinaka

Roy Davidson (Washington)

Mr. Horinaka, the long-time president of the Japan Iris Society and overseas judge of the American Iris Society, has given us this most remarkable documentation of one of the native species of the orient, *Iris laevigata*, the Kakitsubata of Japanese horticulture. Every aspect of this unique water plant is considered, from its natural distribution in Northern Japan and adjacent lands, its position in Nature's scheme and in the culture of the Japanese people, to the latest garden forms. To this last end the author has contributed ???? from many years of selecting his seedlings, not only of the species itself but also of out-cross hybrids, particularly with *I. versicolor*.

The simple, straightforward text tells in words all we need to know about this species, but OH! the illustrations! There are about 120 of these—86 pages each about 7½ x 10½ inches, many covering an entire page or a number taking up a double page; it is almost like being right there as these obviously are not stingy little pictures to squint at. Such sumptuous illustrations set us to wishing we had more than the handful of clones available to us. We can envision a small pond filled with the azure AITORI or of GOSHOBENI

which seems far redder than REGAL, raised by Perry in England, or the classic white KOZONOYUKI (although the author as a purist says no absolute albino is yet known). We are further set to yearning for such novel flowers as the six-petal, delicately red-freckled AMONOKAWA (though in a second picture it is not red) or such delicacies as the pastel GOSHOMURASAKI, azure with a heart of violet styles, or HAKUCHONOUTA, white with rosy-red heart.

The photos serve also to correctly identify some of the few cultivars we do have as well as to instruct us in what we ought to be selecting for in the seedlings we may be growing from the limited gene-pool of the seed exchange offerings; i.e. long, thin standards do not stand for long.

Although the color range is only within the anthocycan pigments, there is an attractive variation in patterns and range of pastel to intense hues. We learn where we may visit this plant while we are traveling in Japan, from the many preserves in the wild where it is protected by the national government or set aside by local cities or wards, even by families who have taken it as their family symbol. It is also planted extensively in many places, in one of these in Osaka it may be seen in many of the forms and as thousands of flowers. The author has traced the nomenclature and attempted to ascertain authenticity from all the literature which goes back several centuries; some few of them go back as far as there are records. Pictured are about 60 cultivars and numerous unnamed ones, one of the latter being a silvery-variegated clone that has been known for centuries. Surely this lovely book will be the incentive to obtaining a far greater variety of these water irises for our own gardens.

This is very clearly an irisarian connoisseur's book, one both beautiful and useful. It is available from the author in its own slip-case for \$60, plus shipping, \$8 surface or \$15 air. Send postal money order to:

AKIRA HORINAKA OIDE-CHO 9-31 NISHINOMIYA 662 JAPAN

## Preservation of Antique Siberian Irises

Wilma Little (Missouri)

After reading information from the Historical Iris Preservation Society (HIPS) about their efforts to preserve antique bearded irises, a group of Greater Kansas City Iris Society members became concerned about Siberians being lost or destroyed. So, the Preservation of Antique Siberian Irises Special Interest Group was born. Information about this new project was written up in the latest H.I.P.S. Journal.

The goals of this group are:

1. To re-affirm the value and beauty of Antique Siberian irises.

- 2. To create an accurate and complete list of Antique Siberian irises.
- 3. To develop a source list of people who grow or sell Antique Siberian irises.
- 4. To identify "safe collection gardens" where Antique Siberian irises can grow and multiply in various geographic locations.
- To encourage people with Antique Siberian irises to sell, trade, or share plants so that they can increase instead of being lost or destroyed forever.
- 6. To eventually develop a commercial list where all Antique Siberian irises are available.

Using their registration dates from the February, 1989 Siberian Checklist, a "working" list has been created of Antique Siberian irises in 10 year time periods from 1950 and earlier. There are already 8 "safe collection gardens" volunteered in the Greater Kansas City area.

Anyone interested in information about this group and its activities, or anyone who has information to share about antique Siberian irises should contact Wilma Little. Phone: (816) 942-2940 or write to 1405 E. 108 Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64131.

# Club Activities to Increase Enjoyment

Shirley Gresty (Kansas)

1990 was an active year for the Wichita Area Iris Society. Two nice shows were held despite the late freezes. Those freezes made the shows small, but they were pretty and promoted the iris. The Annual Show was especially pretty as the new vases purchased last year were used. They made a definite improvement in the appearance of the show.

At the sale we used posters with photos from the National Convention in Omaha and from our Annual Show. These photos were made by Patricia Ardisonne, and her husband Larry will show his tape of the National at a future meeting. This thoughtfulness helps those who are unable to attend to enjoy the convention. A late season sale was also planned to add to the treasury and to permit the sale of different types of irises.

New members were added at the show and sale, including some from Enid, Oklahoma. We have several members from Oklahoma, and this is great since we can share ideas, learn from each other, and make new friends.

The club took a bus tour to Oklahoma City to see one of their iris shows. Since it was held at Will Rogers Park, we also visited the iris gardens there. The gardens of Paul Black and Bill Clark were visited, and we saw good iris blooms despite the rains Oklahoma had had.

Some irises I found interesting were ORANGE SLICES, INFINITE GRACE, SIGHS AND WHISPERS, EAGLE'S FLIGHT, TRIPLE WHAMMY, and HANDS UP. These were very good despite the rains and the late freezes.

Since the trip was long, those on the bus played bingo with irises as the prizes. A good time was had by all.

Later in the season, I attended the show in Hutchison. I noted that the older varieties were doing better than the new ones for them just as they did for us.

Activities of different kinds always make clubs more interesting and help them to grow.

Editor's Note: Other clubs across the country sponsor various events for the enjoyment of members. The SFVIS sponsors a trek, and they often invite the general public to take part. This club, The San Fernando Valley Iris Society, is in heavily populated Southern California, but they fight traffic to attend meetings and varied activities maintain the interest. The Tulsa Area Iris Society has a Christmas dinner which is free to all members. They have also sponsored a program for new members at a time outside the regular meeting night so new members could ask questions of an experienced grower without fear of sounding dumb at a meeting.

Other ideas include demonstrations on arranging, grooming irises, hybridizing, and planting, as well as programs on culture of the various classes of irises.

If your club has found something successful, share it with us. Variety and quality of programs is what keeps members interested. Learning about irises can be fun—and it can be varied. Learning about irises is more than just a slide show every meeting date.

#### **SECTION SLIDES AVAILABLE**

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent, which feature irises of each respective group. Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise. Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

ARILS and ARILBREDS: Order from Clay H. Osborne, 47806 Calle Fiesta, Indio, CA 92201—Check tp Aril Society International.

DWARFS: Order from Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beechwood, OH 44122. Check to DIS.

HISTORIC IRIS PRESERVATION SOCIETY (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113.

JAPANESE: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

LOUISIANAS: Order from LaVera Burkett, 1002 Randall, Searcy, AR 72143. Check to LISA.

MEDIANS: Order from Terry Aitken, 608 N.W. 119th St., Vancouver, WA 98685. Check to MIS.

REBLOOMERS: Contact Earl E. Hall, 1495 Enterprise Road, West Alexandria, OH 45381.

SIBERIANS: Order from Thomas Abrego, P.O. Box 693, Newberg, OR 97132. Check to Society for Siberian Irises.

SPECIES: Several sets available—Order from Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave., Sudbury, MA 01776. Check to SIGNA.

SPURIAS: To order, contact Ray M. John, 1004 Springfield, Ft. Worth, TX 76112.

#### IRIS SLIDES FOR RENT

AIS offers a number of iris slides sets for rental to members, each consisting of approximately 100 35mm slides. These provide excellent programs for both iris societies and garden clubs.

#### **SLIDE SETS AVAILABLE FOR 1991**

THE NEWEST IN IRISES: 1988 through 1991 introductions—mostly TB, but contains some other types.

RECENT AWARD WINNERS: HM and AM winners-1987 thru 1990.

THE POPULARITY POLL: Favorite irises as reflected by the 1990 AIS Symposium. RECENT BEAUTIES: Recent introductions which have not as yet won the HM award—mostly TB, but includes other types.

TYPES OTHER THAN TALL BEARDED: Bearded and beardless—arranged in blooming sequence.

RELIABLES: Mostly past award winners of various types—especially suited for newer iris societies and garden clubs.

1989 MEMPHIS CONVENTION: 1990 OMAHA CONVENTION:

**To Order:** Requests for slides should be made well in advance of requested date, preferably six to eight weeks. If optional, specify alternate sets and/or dates. Clearly *print* name and mailing address to whom slides are to be sent. Rental fee is \$7.50 per set, payable to AIS. Only one set allowed for any request date. AIS Affiliate Societies are entitled to one free set per calendar year. Slide sets are to be returned next day after viewing by FIRST CLASS/PRIORITY mail.

Send check with request to:

Howard Shockey, Chairman Slides Committee 4611 Rio Grande Lane, N.W. Albuquerque, N.M. 87107

#### IRIS SLIDES NEEDED

Hybridizers and camera buffs! To keep the existing AIS slide sets updated and of improved quality, a constant supply of good slides is needed. If you have high quality close-up slides of the below listed, won't you please submit them for possible inclusion in the slide sets? Selected slides will be duplicated, and the originals returned to you, if requested. Acute needs for revisions beginning in November are slides of:

1989 through 1991 introductions of all types. 1988 through 1990 HM and AM award winners—all types. Arrangements—Floral designs featuring irises.

Please mail to: Howard Shockey, Chairman Slides Committee 4611 Rio Grande Lane, N.W. Albuquerque, N.M. 87107

#### AIS SLIDE RENTAL INCREASE

Due to the 20% increase in postage effective next February, and to the ever increasing costs of film and processing, the fee to rent an AIS slide set has been increased to \$7.50.

## Versicolor X Ensata Hybrids: A World Premiere?

Monique Dumas-Quesnel and Tony Huber (Canada)

Those of you who have read our article in the October, 1990, Bulletin now know about our versicolor X ensata hybrids. Of course, we won't repeat what has already been said, but we think it might be useful to publish more information.

Last June, we received Dr. Currier McEwen's book entitled *The Japanese Iris*. This is a beautiful book and as breeders, we just couldn't refrain from reading the chapter on hybridizing first. Reading about the crosses made between *Iris ensata* and other species, we were quite excited to realize that we might be the first to have achieved successful crosses between *Iris ensata* and *Iris versicolor*.

We wrote Dr. McEwen, and he confirmed that he had never heard about such crosses. We sent him slides of some hybrids.

We use *Iris versicolor* as the pod parent and *Iris ensata* as the pollen parent. We try every year to reverse the cross, but it has never worked.

The first hybrids we obtained came from crosses we made in 1987, just for fun. Some of them produced flowers in 1989, the others bloomed for the first time this past Summer (1990), 3 years after. These crosses involved parents we now consider as ordinary plants (since we made improvements to the species versicolor itself during the past years) and in spite of that, they are beautiful and do not look like any of the parents but rather like a beautiful mix of both.

In 1988 and 1989, when we realized those crosses were producing plantlets that might be real hybrids, we considered the fact more seriously and made crosses with selected parents chosen for their particular colors, shapes and sizes. Thus, we are expecting a lot more variations and possibilities among the next year's progeny.

This part of our breeding program, though gaining in importance, is relatively new, the main objective being the improvement of *Iris versicolor* itself. So, when the program started, we never thought we would be heading in this direction.

Another interesting feature is that these hybrids seem to be more resistant to rust than regular versicolors.

As these lines are being written, the chromosome counts have not yet been completed, but by the time you read them, the counts will be done. We expect the hybrids to be 2n66 as was the 'DOM-F1'. Our hybrids seem to be partly sterile as they produce no pollen or very little if any, and produce few seeds (if any) when pollenized with other iris pollen. We will attempt this winter to treat them with colchicine in order to obtain tetraploids, what we hope would restore their fertility.

Having such success with those hybrids, we are also trying to introduce yellow into those strains, first by obtaining yellow ensata X pseudacorus hybrids (which have already been done by others), but the resulting plants are sterile (see "The Japanese Iris"). Crossing tetraploid plants could overcome that problem, and Dr. McEwen is working on this aspect. What we are interested in is crossing such a hybrid (with yellow flowers) with versicolor so as to introduce the yellow gene (or genes) in the species.

In the last article, we also mentioned the two plants called 'DOM-F2', which have approximately 2n116 or 2n 118 chromosomes, maybe more. We still have no precise idea of their genetic pattern, since we cannot think about RFLP studies at this time. What is very interesting with those vigorous and beautiful hybrids is that we self-pollinated them and the first generation of 'DOM-F3' first flowers appeared this past summer. We also backcrossed some 'DOM-F2' with *Iris versicolor* and both 'DOM-F3' and the backcrossed hybrids (called X-DOM) produced exceptional specimens.

We now have a wide range of colors and tints of blue, violet, purple, pink and lilac, some very dark and velvety, some fading to very light margins. We have some with no veins, some with absolutely no white and no yellow, some with waved flowers, almost ruffled, and a lot of other variations.

We also admired a hybrid with outstanding flowers which flowered for the first time this past summer. We thought it to be a hybrid between *Iris setosa* (pollen) and 'DOM-F1' (pod), since it came from a seed pod that was bearing such a label. But after looking at the picture #26 in "The Japanese Iris" showing a hybrid between *Iris pseudacorus* and *Iris ensata 'Sayo-no-tuki'* we thought for a moment it might have been the result of an open pollination of 'DOM-F1' by pseudacorus, since the flowers have the same dark purple pattern around the yellow signal, but are lilac instead of white (style arms being white). But Dr. McEwen told us he obtained that dark halo among his ensata too. So, it could have been open pollinated by another *Iris ensata*. We don't know! What we know is that its chromosome count is 2n78. The plant was produced by means of embryo culture and it is lovely and very floriferous (40 flowers the first flowering season) but sterile, not one seed set.

In closing, we'd like to have the opinion of Iris taxonomists who read this as to how we should call our versicolor X ensata hybrids. For our own use we call them 'ensacolor,' but should it be 'versata' or anything else? We looked up the International Code of Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants and there seems to be many possibilities. Does the AIS have special rules for naming irises?

We would also be glad to receive comments from any AIS members who are interested in our work.

#### BURCH IRIS GARDEN 205 Knox Drive Huntsville, Alabama 35811

SOOTHING—TB. "Lovely" is the descriptive word for this iris in notes made since its first bloom. This is a brilliantly colored light (77C) lavender self that has continued to have large ruffled blossoms. The beard is red, pink (43B)
MAINSTAY—BB. One of our favorites, this iris is very lacy, short frilly, leathery and tough in weather—a mainstay. It is pale pink (38D), lighter in middle of the falls with a red beard (41B). Iris has continued to stay within its class
blooms open alternately, extending the bloom season and making a lovely show stalk also. It is a yellow (9C) self with a white blaze in the middle of the falls then darkening slightly to 9C at the hafts. Standards are ruffled, erect, semi-open
BALLAD OF DIXIE (83) Pale yellow self, HC 82 \$ 2.50
<b>BIG VICTORY</b> (90) BB. White, gold beard
DIXIE CLASSIC (89) Brown, orange beard
ELIZABETH CAROL (86) Red black self, HC 83 5.00
<b>FROSTY JEWELS</b> (79) Light pink self, HM 81, AM 83 2.50
GOING PLACES (89) Red violet self, many blooms
JEWELED STARLIGHT (80) Yellow and white, HM 82 2.50
KIRSCH (84) BB. Reddish purple, overlaid black, HM 86 2.50
LARCENIST (89) Pink self, showy stalk
MANUSCRIPT (90) Pale red violet, popular in Omaha15.00
MISS NELLIE —(83) BB. S-yellow, F-yellow, red, purple blend, HM 85,
AM 87, Knowlton Medal 90
OCEAN SWELLS (86) Pale blue self, fades to white 2.50
PATRICIAN ELEGANCE (84) Buff orange and white, HC 83 2.50
SOUTHLAND GRAPE (78) Violet self, bronze beard, AM 82 2.50
STARSTRUCK (90) Ruffled orange self
WONDERSTRUCK (81) Pale violet self, gold hafts, HM 83 2.50
Please include \$4.00 to partially cover the expenses of packing and shipping. Order from this ad—no catalog. I grow many newer irises and can provide surprise packages, \$50 up.

# Introducing . . .



**SUMMER PROMISE** 

\$30.00

(C. RHODES)

See it at the D.C. Convention

# **BOWOOD FARMS**

FOX CREEK LANE

CLARKSVILLE, MO. 63336

# SILICON PRAIRIE



Tim Stanek (1991)

\$35.00

**SILICON PRAIRIE (85-1)** This first introduction from **Eight Mile Grove** is a unique breeder's iris, with clean light blue standards and chartreuse yellow falls..HC '90.



P. O. BOX 7225 OMAHA , NE 68107



MEGGLETHROP

# 1991 INTRODUCTIONS FROM BARBARA & STERLING INNERST



TENNESSEE GENTLEMAN

TENNESSEE GENTLEMAN—Sdlg. 3361-1. TB, 36", M-L. Medium yellow with 1/2" blue purple trim on F.; bronze blue beards. Very vigorous 7-9 buds with excellent stalks. Point Made X 2375-10: (Capricious x Colortart). Very fertile both ways
SPRINGHOUSE—Sdlg. 2632-1. TB 36" E-M. Butterscotch self with large blue waterfall beneath bronze-tipped gold beards. Wonderful stalks with 7-9 buds. Vigorous and very fertile both ways. 2152-1: (World News x Show Biz) X 2150-1: (Show Biz x Warmed bythe Sun) \$25.00
<b>RUMBLESEAT</b> —Sdlg. 2397-3. TB 36" M-L. White ground trimmed raspberry red violet, yellow beards. Very ruffled, great form, terrific stalks, 7 + buds, fertile both ways. 1980-1: (Colortrak sib x Burgundy Brown) X 1666-10: ((April Melody x Wedding Vow) x Flamenco) \$25.00
HIGH LONESOME—Sdlg. 237-10. TB 34" M-L. Mid blue standards, dark blue falls; dark blue beards tipped bronze. Excellent stalks, 7 buds, great form. Fertile both ways but very difficult. 1856-1: (Sapphire Hills x (San Leandro x Shipshape)) X 1329-9: (Mary Francis x Starina)
<b>MEGGLETHROP</b> —Sdlg. 3379-4. IB 19" M-L. Sib to Higgledy-Piggledy. Light blue with dark blue spots on falls; light blue beards. Excellent round form, 7 buds, great stalks. Striking in the garden! Scented Nutmeg X 2815-1: (Little Episode x Pippi Longstockings)
BUNNICULA—Sdlg. 3377-2. IB 22" M. White standards with yellow base, full yellow falls; yellow beards. Super form and color definition. Image Maker X Dash Away
<b>ASSIGNMENT</b> —Sdlg. 3235-6. SDB 14" M. Sib to Lesson. Light green standards; dark green falls; green beards. Full round form, 2 branches, 5 buds. 1583-1: (Gentle Smile x Mystic Syhmbol) X (Gentle Smile x Stockholm) \$ 7.50
SMART—Sdlg. 2815-3. SDB 13" M. Red violet with purple spot on falls; blue beards. Great form, 5 buds. Little Episode X Pippi Longstockings \$ 7.50
One each TB collection—\$90.00 One each Median collection—\$35.00 Shipping and Handling—\$2.50 No extras on collections
COMPANIES OF DEPARTMENT AND DOCUMENT

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Phone (717) 764-0281

#### THE IRIS POND



SUKY (Mahan '91)

SUKY (Mahan '91). Sdlg. 186-1. TB 37" EM. S. white flushed violet around edge, violet midrib; F. violet with large pure white zone extending from hafts to nearly halfway down. Ruffled, pronounced spicy fragrance. Violet Miracle X Victoria Falls. Outstanding growth and increase. Great stalks with 7 to 9 well-placed flowers. Sometimes reblooms here but very late \$35.00

Price List — \$1.00

7311 Churchill Road

McLean, VA 22101



Feminine Fire (R. Ernst, 1991) \$35.00 Our 63rd Year



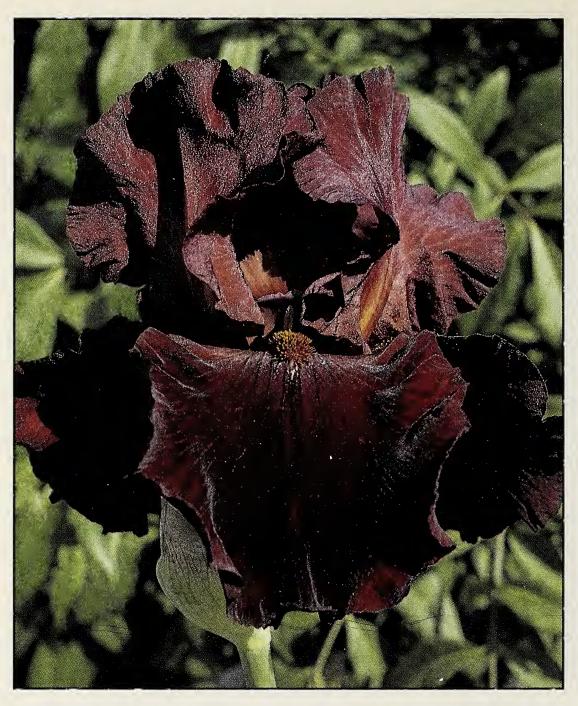
11553 Silverton Rd. NE • P.O. Box 126 AIS Silverton, Oregon 97381



Clear Morning Sky (R. Ernst, 1991) \$35.00 Our 63rd Year

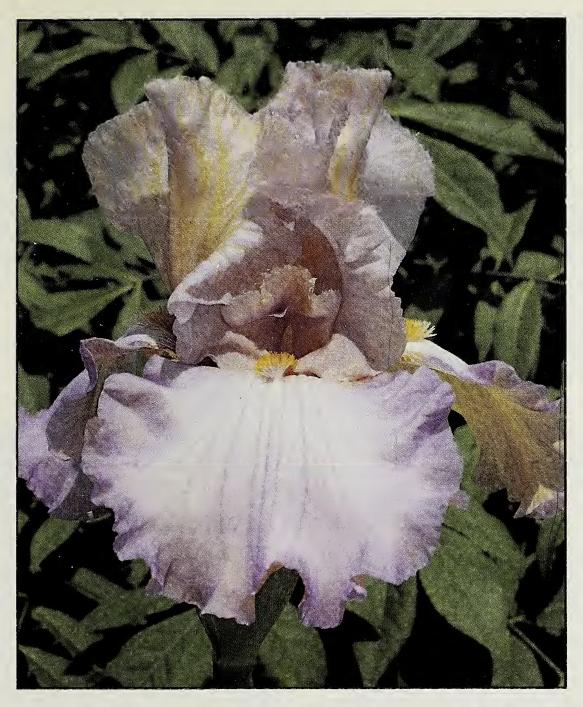


11553 Silverton Rd. NE • P.O. Box 126 AIS Silverton, Oregon 97381



Forge Fire (R. Ernst, 1991) \$35.00 Our 63rd Year





Lingering Lavender (R. Ernst, 1991) \$35.00 Our 63rd Year





**LIGHTED LANTERN** (Tom Magee 91) TB 36" M.



**SWEETIE GIRL** (Tom Magee 91) BB 21" E.



**COLORADO AMBROSIA** (Tom Magee 91) BB 27" E.



SEE AD PAGES 87-89



SUNPOLKA (Tom Magee 91) TB 39" E.

# **GEORGE A. SHOOP**

12560 S.W. Douglas Portland, OR 97225



**DETAILED INFORMATION ELSEWHERE** IN THIS BULLETIN.

**SNOW CROWN** 



#### 1991 Hybridizers Special

Variegated Irises have come a long way since we found our first variegated seedling in 1967. Along the way, we've had many beautiful variegated seedlings, not quite good enough to name, but good enough to attract a lot of attention in the garden.

The A.I.S. Convention guests were fascinated by these seedlings, so this year we offer a collection of six, all different in color, with an additional variegated foliage seedling as an extra.

These seedlings are all numbered, and parentage is available.

Should you want to use these in hybridizing, the other parent should be a beautiful, modern plicata with good branching and bud count.

See the Varigay Gardens ad on the adjacent page.

#### **NEBRASKA-BORN IRISES**

#### Hardy to −20° VARIGAY GARDENS

10.00

1991 Hybridizers Special
Jazz-up your Iris garden with
these colorful, unusual Irises

7 variegated Irises	\$30.00
See color ad adjacent page	
Lumina 1991 BB Iris	\$25.00
Beautiful blossoms with blue-violet	
petal edges fading to white at the	
flower center	

#### **BB Collection 1988**

Color Brite '87 HM 89—Pink with red splashes
Zinc Pink '87 HM 89—Laced and ruffled French rose
Little Miss '87 HM 89—White ground splashed violet
Berry Rich '87 HM 89—Lilac-purple self
Batik '86 AM 1990—White ground striped royal purple
The above five beautiful BBs for \$25.00

#### **IB Collection 1986**

Aint She Sweet '86 HM 89—White with flax blue edging Cum Laude '86 HM 1990—Garnet self Good and True '86 HM 1990—White, gentian blue beard Mama Hoohoo '86 HM 89—Indian yellow Loves Tune '86 HM 90—Blue with white beard Pennyworth '84—Garnet brown Wampum '83 AM 89—Oxblood red with violet blaze Hubbub IB 89—Variegated color

The above eight beautiful IBs for \$25.00.

#### **IB Collection 1990**

Basso '90—Dahlia purple—purple beard
Blue Eyed Blond '89—Yellow-blue beard
Hers '90—White with pale lavender flush—yellow hafts
His '90—Chrome vellow—violet flush
John '90—Falls straw yellow, Standards chocolate brown
Kermit '90—Chartreuse with blue blaze
Morning Show '88 HM '90—Cardinal red self
Willow Ware '90—Standards white—Falls sea blue
The above eight beautiful IBs for \$30.00

#### SDB Collection 1984

Twelve beautiful SDBs—Most have received HM awards. People Pleaser received an AM 1990. DoSiDo received an AM 1988. Tantara received an AM 1989.

All twelve for \$25.00

# Choose from the following for generous extras

What Again SDB 1991—Reblooms
John IB 1990—Brown Stands/yellow falls
Morning Show IB '88—Presidents Cup 1990
Sonja's Selah BB '89—Near pink amoena
Maria Tormena TB HM '90—Variegated pink
Karen Christine TB HM '87—Mauve pink, violet beard
Jazzebel TB HM '90—Amoena Plicata
Batik BB AM '90—Variegated
Purple Streaker TB HM '83—Variegated
Pandoras Purple TB HM '83—Purple plicata

Shipments will be made on Mondays between July 1 and August 30. Irises listed in collections may not be purchased separately. Please include \$2.00 for packaging and shipping.

Varigay Gardens

RFD 3, Lincoln Allan Ensminger

Nebraska 68505

#### RODERICK IRIS GARDEN

Route 2, Box 2199

Farmington, MO 63640

#### 1991 Introductions

GLORY BALLET (Steve Stevens) Sdlg. 84-2-30. TB 34" E-M. Beautifully ruffled wistaria blue (RHS 92), violet blue beards tipped yellow. Excellent bloom spacing on 2 branches, often showing 3 blooms open twice per stalk with 7 to 8 blooms per stalk. This variety takes its good points from both of its illustrious Dykes Medal parents. Vigorous. Titan's Glory X Ruffled Ballet \$35.00

**DIPPED IN GOLD** (Steve Stevens) Sdlg. 82-31-3. TB 34" E-M. Ruffled and laced white with ¼" gold (RHS 16) band; yellow beards; laced gold style arms; 8-9 blooms on well branched stalks. Vigorous, easy grower. Flowers appear to have been "dipped in gold". Lemon Curls X 78-39-3: (Goldie M X Li'l Goldie) . . . . . . . . . . . . \$30.00

FINAL DECISION (Roderick) Sdlg. 8404A. TB 36" ML. A very distinctive golden yellow self with light area in falls. The large blooms have extra heavy substance and beautiful deep ruffles. Each year this seedling would excite me with its gorgeous blooms, but I hesitated introducing it because of only five buds per stalk. Finally, after outstanding performance in a very difficult year when many varieties were hurt by late freezes, the "final decision" was made. Thus, the name. HC 1990 . . . . . . . . . . \$25.00

# **Growing Irises—Love and Hate**

Lorene Logue (Kansas)

Love and hate are worlds apart generally, but in growing irises, the two have met for me.

I've been growing plants all my life, coming from a farming background, and when I find something I like, I jump in with both feet.

That's how I started growing irises. My mother-in-law ordered some irises from Schreiners in the mid-50's, and when they increased, she shared with me. They were so pretty, so I began acquiring them also. A friend had a beautiful iris garden, so I borrowed her Cooley's catalog and ordered some irises. I traded with anyone who would trade. I sent for a catalog from the Wild's of Missouri. They carried irises and peonies, too. (I had quite a few



#### SPANISH FORK IRIS GARDENS

Darlene Pinegar 40 S. 200 West, Spanish Fork, UT 84660

#### 1991 Introductions

RASPBERRY LACE—BB 27" EM-ML. Not for the show bench, but a good garden iris! On established clumps, stalks have a tendency to split into double and triple stalks, each with 5 buds. S. medium red purple. F. same with lighter center and orchid haft markings. Flowers lightens after opening. Deep gold beards tipped lavender. Heavily laced and lightly ruffled. Raspberry Ripples X Petite Posy \$15.00

Many other TB, AB and Median Irises. Send first class stamp for descriptive price list. Very limited stock of all varieties. When ordering from this ad, please add \$3.00 for shipping.

peonies, also). Now, it was time to make bigger beds, so out came the shovel and fork. Oh, my aching back—we did not yet have a roto-tiller.

Ah, the joy of watching them green up in the spring, to see and feel the future blooms in the fat fans. Much time is spent in weeding, feeding, watering, and watching them from early spring growth until that magic day when the first bloom opens! I haunt the beds, talking to and feeling each plant and bloom, with many hours spent just walking and enjoying them. Some are just lovely in the early darkness. They become close friends and loved ones. As with our human contacts, some are more precious than others. (I have a weakness for ruffled, pinks, blacks and plicatas.)

One day a friend was visiting and asked the name of different ones. She seemed astounded that I could name them without looking at the labels, row

#### 1991 INTRODUCTIONS

**Note:** Sdlg. 83-401-1, the rusty brown variety seen in the Boys Town Garden will be introduced as BRONZETTE STAR in 1992. For earlier introductions from this garden, please request listing.

Include \$2.50 for shipping costs when ordering any of the above introductions.

MRS. GRANT D. (EVELYN) KEGERISE

501 Pennsylvania Ave.

Reading, PA 19605

after row, but everyone knows his or her children's names! I love them all, just some more than others. I shared some with her and with others and can go around town and see some of my "children" bloom in the spring. Some even went to other states to bring joy to others.

By nature I'm a saver and collector, so as beds filled up and "wants" continued, something had to go and that was painful. I hated to part with any of them. I moved them to the fence-rows, to out-of-the-way places and still had too many. Many of the older ones are rapid increasers, too. Now came the crucial test—deciding what would go, and which ones I simply could not live without. Out came the shovel and fork, and I began to dig. All were dug, cleaned, washed, and labeled. Now there were two piles designated. Into one pile went all the "keepers" and the others went into the "get rid of" pile.

## The Wild Mountain Thyme

486 Skiff Street North Haven, CT 06473 (203) 248-8718

**SUNSPINNER (Markham, 1991) BB,** 26", EM. Flaring and ruffled. Bright yellow with lighter area surrounding its thick yellow-orange beards. Well-proportioned plant gives moderate increase and generous bloom with two branches, spur and terminal (up to 7 buds). Pod fertile and producing excellent seedlings. Sheaff 62-21 X (BB sib to Pearl Kemp x Tulare) HC 1990 \$25

**TRANCE (Warburton, R. 1979) JI,** 3P, 30", VL. Standards violet blue (RHS 92A); pearly violet style arms with hooded crests; falls pale violet with darker violet (RHS 92B) lines. Hirao sdlg. X Dazzling Debutante . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . \$30

Write for complete list



Unfortunately, when I finished, the "keeper" pile was too big so that was resorted into a "must keep" and "maybe" pile!

Eventually, they were all taken care of—most replanted, others donated to the iris sale or given to friends (or anyone who would take them) and a few were even put in the trash can due to bad condition.

What do I hate about irises? I hate the grass and weeds that seem to invade them every year and is a major task to remove. I hate how they spread into and on top of each other if you fail to get them dug and replanted on schedule. I hate having to divide in the heat of summer when I'd rather sit in the shade. I hate that some are poor growers, at least for me, or die completely. I hate how they get raggedy looking during hot summer days after the grasshoppers eat on the leaves.

Each year I threaten to get rid of my irises and grow something that takes less care, but when the catalogs arrive I start dreaming again! And when April comes and the first blooms open, I know it was just an idle threat and that my love-hate relationship will continue as long as I can do it. Occasionally a fall blooming iris will put up a bloomstalk in September and October when the weather cooperates just to reinforce my joy in irises.

Irises—love them or hate them—but I can't live without them.

#### **BUMBLE BEE GARDENS**

#### [HOME OF "BEAUTIFUL FOLIAGE-1990"]

801 Logan Street

**WAYNE, NE 68787** 

SONG OF SOLITUDE (Hummel) TB M-L 30". Anticipate these beautiful buds tinted Sea Lavender Violet and enjoy the wonderfully formed white flower with a Saffron yellow beard. This flower abounds with substance and garden appeal, carries 7-8 buds consistently, and received an HC in 1986. Toasted Almond X (Summer Haze x Beverly Sills)
LARA (Hummel) TB M-L 30". This magenta rose self has a salmon blush at the haft
and rose red-orange beards. Branches are well-placed and carry 7 to 8 buds. LARA's color reminds one of the muted decorator colors so popular today. Social
Register X Tide Mark
SERENITY COVE (Hummel) TB M-L 34". Standards Salmon with light pink flush
at stiff midribs and Indian yellow styles; falls are Egyptian buff with a delicate, slightly deeper edge; lemon yellow beard. Excellent branch with seven buds. Paradise x (Summer Haze x Carved Pink)\$30.00
SUNRISE SALUTE (Hummel) BB L 25.5". This Naples yellow border blooms
heavily and consistently with up to nine buds. Falls have a deeper yellow thumb- print, are very round and moderately flared. The cadmium orange beard finishes this heavily substanced flower. Dream Affair X (Warm Gold x (Sleeping Beauty x
Summer Dawn)). HC 1990
MINTAKA (Hummel) BB M 22.5". This lovely white self infused light cornflower blue and sporting an intense cornflower blue beard has been delayed in introduction only by our "other" more pressing concerns. MINTAKA received an HC in 1985 and is always a garden favorite on a two-year clump that frequently looks like a "sea of flowers." Averages five buds. Blue Luster X (Navy Strut x Sea Bright) \$15.00
Previous Introductions—Tall Bearded
DRESDEN DELIGHT '88. Dresden yellow self with lemon yellow beards. Perfect show stalk with excellent substance
JOYOUS CADENCE '88. Stnds. primrose yellow with near white falls edged primrose marked with canary yellow haft\$10.00
TIDE MARK '87. Delicate amethyst violet plicata on white ground with shrimp red beard. Excellent branch placement, consistent performer. HC 1986, HM 1990. New plicata blood lines
TASSELLENA '87. Stnds. Chinese yellow flushed orange at midrib. Falls amber
yellow blending to lighter shade and accented by fat nasturtium red beard. Consistent in bloom, increase, and flower placement. HM 1989
VERACITY '87. Clear, clean cadmium orange self with Indian orange beard. Color holds well. Beauty in simplicity of form with 7-9 buds usual. HM in 1990 \$7.00
<b>SUMMER HAZE</b> '87. Greyed Tuscan yellow stnds. with aster violet falls rimmed pink, yellow beard. Hardy, excellent increase, consistent performance, proven good parent both ways

Vera and Jim Hummel 801 Logan, Wayne, NE 68787

#### 1991 INTRODUCTIONS

SPRING SONATA—Sdlg. 80-7P. TB, ML. S. white, edged with light violet markings. F. white, edged with light violet plicata markings. Light violet and yellow markings across hafts, accented violet markings at tip of yellow beards. Violet crest, yellow in throat. On the Go X (Earthly Prize x Peek a Blue)
\$30.00

Add \$3.50 for postage and handling

#### FRANKLIN E. CARR

27 Mary Street

Bordentown, New Jersey 08505

#### CELESTIAL GARDENS

1613 Country Club Road Reidsville, NC 27320 Phone: 919/342-0006

#### 1991 Introductions

MICHELLE STADLER (Stadler 91) BB 24" E-M Sdlg. H33/13: (Pink Bubbles X Memphis Delight). Deep coral pink with falls a shade lighter. Ruffles, light lacing and flaring form. Near perfect border proportion, 7 buds. Named for my daughter. EC 1987 . . . . \$25.00

Include \$3.00 for shipping and handling

#### D & J GARDENS

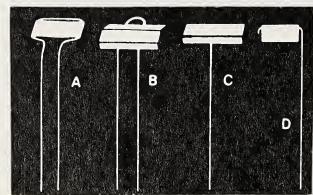
7872 Howell Prairie Road, N.E. Silverton, OR 97381 (503) 873-7603

AMERICAN GREETINGS (J. Meek '91) TB 36" M-L. Well formed white stds.,
flaring powder blue falls and coral beards. Lightly ruffled. G86-5-9: Diva X
Candace sib

**BLUES CHASER** (D. Meek '91) TB 37" E-M. Ice blue self; blue beards. Closed stds. with wide flaring falls, ruffled with pleating at hafts. Well branched and vigorous. 502-2-2: Song of Norway X Winterscape ..........\$25.00

**OUR REQUEST** (D. Meek '91) TB 35" M-L. Cream stds. flushed yellow gold with large cream center area and discreet brown peppering all around fall edges. Yellow gold beards to top it all off. Heavy ruffling and pleating. Very different. Almost amoena plicata. 227-1-4: 242-1-7 X Desert Echo-\$25.00

Prices are net, but we are very generous with extras. When ordering, please add \$3.00 for postage. The list of irises we are growing (as well as our former introductions) can be obtained by sending a large self-addressed envelope with double postage. Shipping mid-July to mid-August by UPS. If your needs are different, please let us know. Meanwhile, we wish you "Happy Irising" and a large "Thank You" for your patience.



Offering Quality and Satisfaction since 1936

#### PERMANENT FLOWER AND GARDEN MARKERS

Style A: Rose Marker 100 - 10" \$17.75, 15" \$19.95, 20" 23.75.

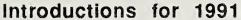
Style B: Nursery 100 - 10" \$21.55, 15" \$24.60, 20" \$27.75

Style C: Single Staff 100 - 20" \$21.40. Style D: Swinger 100 - 10" \$16.00.

Shipping and Handling Charges: Zip codes under 75000 add \$3.55 per 100, over 75000 \$5.20 per 100. Ohio residents add 6% tax. SEND FOR FREE BROCHURE. Inquire about smaller quantities, high volume pricing, permanent marking pens and fund raising plans. Satisfaction guaranteed. EON INDUSTRIES, 315 Dodge Street, Dept. 1, Swanton, OH 43558.



# Fort Iris Gardens



Cheri Nobyl (Fort '91) TB, 36 inches, Mid. Season, 8-10 buds, EC, Seedling No.: 84-56-A. This regal heavily ruffled, clean, satin pink iris delivers a royal procession of bloom at the height of the season showing off the crown jewel of cherry red beards. Excellent in proportion this prolific flower has a slight fragrance befitting it's heritage......\$25

Incan Legacy (Fort '91) TB, 32 inches, Mid. Season, 8-10 buds, EC, Seedling No.: 86-122-D. Arising from the warm earth like a legacy from the past this flower begins as a rich bronze-copper self, mellowing to bright antique gold, the shoulders retaining the warm bronze influence. Domed standards and round flaring falls are both ruffled; beards are a clean gold.....\$25 Orange Sorbet (Fort '91) TB, 36 inches, Mid. Season, 8-10 buds, EC, Seedling No.: 87-38-A. This tasteful, clean, bitone is a subtle mixture of pink orange standards over creamy orange falls. Standards are laced and nicely ruffled, falls are large, round, ruffled, and slightly laced; large tangerine red beards.......\$25

**Terms:** Order from this advertisement, include \$3 for UPS shipping and handling. Orders east of the Rocky Mountains add an additional \$2 for 2nd day air to insure rhizome viability. All shipment will be made in July. Catalog on request for \$1 (refundable with order).

Fort Iris Gardens
2157 Hoxie, Richland, WA 99352



19923 Broadway

Snohomish, WA 98290

Phone: (206) 668-4429

#### 1991 Introduction

Catalog listing 650 varieties \$1.00
Order from this ad. Enclose \$3.50 for shipping

The gardens open May 20 to Sept. 20, 1991. Rhizome shipping begins July 10, 1991.

# Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden

The KIRKLAND IRIS GARDEN has been combined with AITKEN'S SALMON CREEK GARDEN, following the death of Carol Lankow, October, 1990. Carol was our close friend for the past ten years, as well as coach and critic of our hybridizing efforts. The Kirkland Garden will be open to visitors during the 1991 season as we work towards integrating the mailing lists, inventories and the extensive seedling crops. Carol had many quality seedlings which will be introduced as quantity permits. An extensive display of these seedlings can be viewed at our garden in Vancouver, as well as in Kirkland.

In addition to continuing Carol Lankow's hybridizing lines, we are also very pleased to offer iriises registered by Sigrid Asmus, Ken Fisher, Bennett Jones and Jean Witt, as follows:

- MAD DASH (SIGRID ASMUS '91) #83-19A, SDB, 12"; E-M. Velvety deep wine-maroon, with lighter stds., contrasting creamy white beards. Vigorous grower. 3 buds clear the foliage. Blocky and ruffled well proportioned stds. and falls. See our catalog for color photo of Sigrid's very fine first introduction! (Happening X Combo) : . \$10.00
- **ROSALIE M** (Carol Lankow '91) #2F28-5, SDB, 12"; M. Well formed pastel peach-pink with closed stds., excellent substance and white beards tipped orange. 3 buds clear the tidy foliage. Something about pink conveys the sweetness of affection and this one, named for Carol & George's daughter-in-law, is eloquent. (Lucky Duck X Broad Grin) \$10.00
- **KARA NOELLE** (Carol Lankow '91) #4F50-3, IB, 17"; M. Creamywhite with a green wash on the midribs and a yellow wash over the hafts. Pale blue beards. Form is excellent, with wide ruffled closed standards and blocky semi-flared falls. (Sun Dappled X Loveshine) \$15.00
- **BELLA VEE** (Ken Fisher '91) #88-3, Diploid MTB, 21"; M. Bright, clean, light yellow with light orange beard. Very vigorous plant habits and purple based foliage. Good slender stem with 2 wide, low branches, 6 buds. #25-24-H: ((Spring Bells x New Idea) x Blue Bisque) X #82-1B: (Consummation x 79-32, unknown) . . . . \$15.00

**OZARK EVENING** (Ken Fisher '91) #88-1, Tetraploid MTB, 22"; E-M. Smooth, light pink self with coral beards. Closed standards, good width on semi-flared falls. Good 'S' curved slender stem with 2 branches and a spur for 5 buds. (Pink Kewpie X Puppy Love) \$15.00

When ordering from this ad, please include \$3.00 for packing and postage, or send \$1.00 for catalog listing our own 1991 introductions in addition to 800 other top quality varieties.



608 NW 119 ST., VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON, 98685

(206) 573 4472

#### DAYLILIES FOR THE COLLECTOR

SPURIA IRIS introductions of Ben Hager & Eleanor McCown LOUISIANA IRIS introductions of Joe Mertzweiller

Daylily pre-catalog list available February to May. Color catalog available July to November—\$1.00 Spuria and Louisiana iris shipment August 15—October 15.

A gift plant selected from your substitute list. No list—no substitutes—no gift.

#### Cordon Bleu Farms

P.O. BOX 2033 San Marcos, CA 92079-2033

#### Gene Gaddie

#### 1991 Introductions

**ANNE GADDIE**—TB. High Commendation Award. Now this beautiful lady can grace your garden, too. Light rosy cool pink domed standards shade large fringed pinkish cream styles, which have a striking red violet aura at the lip. Rich, velvety deep magenta wine falls have no paling toward edges, where there are large wavy ruffles. Bright tangerine color of large solid beards extends all the way to the tip. Seven huge, very durable blossoms on tall sturdy stalks. 157-8: (Gypsy Caravan x Fiesta Brava) X Ringo . . . . . . . . . \$30.00

BRAZEN HUSSY—TB. Your garden visitors will actually blush at the sight of this voluptuous dame. An unusual combination of two violet tones—bluer in the standards, redder in the falls—have more contrast in texture. The interesting arrangement of pigments and cell layers gives this hussy a "blouse" of grape satin. Her lightly laced, semi-flaring "skirts" are of full violet wine and extra velvety. These ruffle up extensively, showing the silky sheen and color of the standards underneath. Most brazen are the veins she exposes so prominently on her hafts. She also uses lots of sweet cologne. Beards are bronzy gold orange. Eight buds on 34" stalks. 170-1: Red Jade X Glory Bound \$30.00

#### -Both 1991 introductions only \$35.00 (no extras)-

EXTRAS on orders for individual irises will probably be other bearded irises in this ad. Attach "want list" in order of preference. Priorities to earlier orders.

TB: Bronze Sculpture 84, HM	\$3.00	MDB: Almond Joy 87, HM \$4.00		
Crystal Chandelier 89	12.00	Burgundy Blues 85,		
Heaven's Shore 86, HM	4.00	Top HM 3.00		
Lingering Melody 89	12.00	SDB: Blue Nymph 85, HM 2.00		
Rhythm on Ice 85,	3.50	Can't Stop 84 1.50		
Tamarisk 87	6.00	Fat 'n Sassy 89 5.00		
"Miniature Tall" Siberian:		Happy Easter 84, HM 2.00		
Prairie in Bloom 90	30.00	Razzle-Dazzle 86, AM 3.00		
IB: From the Heart 85, HM	2.50	Royal Sparks 84, HM 2.00		
Golden Gusto 90	12.00	Royal Trim 85 3.00		
Little Snow Lemon 84, AM	2.00	Ruffled Revel 84 1.75		
Wide Blue Eyes 90	12.00	BB: Buckskin Finale 85, HM 3.00		
SPU:Sunset Etching 85, HM	6.00	Color Curls 90 16.00		
Order from this ad. Add \$2.50 for shipping and handling. Minimum order \$10.00.				

#### **GADDIES' GARDENS**

601 Eighth Street Stanton, NE 68779 To phone Gene at nearby Norfolk (402) 371-5687

#### 1991 JAPANESE IRIS CONVENTION

Portland, OR — June 13, 14, 15

REGISTRATION — \$75.00 Duane & Joyce Meek, Registrars 7872 Howell Prairie Rd., N.E. Silverton, OR 97381

503/873-7603

6221 N.E. 82 Ave. Portland, OR 97220

HOTEL — Exec-U-Lodge

1-800-423-3047

 $$50 + \tan ' \tan 5/31/91$ 



#### D. STEVE VARNER—ILLINI IRIS

Breeder of Bearded and Siberian Irises, Hems and Peonies Rt. 3, Box 5, Monticello, Illinois 61856 Phone (217) 762-3446

#### NEW for 1991—All are fertile and distinctive

GREEN EYED QUEEN—SIB (Diploid) #7083: (Temper Tantrum X 3133:
(Ruffled Velvet x Dutch)) 28" EM 2.5" blooms 2 br. 4 buds. Definite two tone
effect. Light orchid grape with deeper veins. Stds. have deep purple bars near
bases. Deep purple wash in center of falls. Unique bright green bar (like eyes) on
shaft. Very ruffled, wide styles with aqua midribs. No signals. Limited stock
\$75.00

VALLEY OF DELIGHT—SIB (Tet) (Dance Ballerina Dance X self) 30" EM 3" blooms 2 br. 4 buds. Styles and stds. are ruffled white, tinted pink and are much shorter than ruffled pink falls, which are narrowly edged H. pink. A favorite of mine, with personality and charm. Order early! ......\$70.00

ILLINI PRINCESS—DIP. HEM (Sdlg. R1 X Little Women) 20" diu dor M-La. Full, wide spread 3" flowers. Pastel creamy lt. yellow flesh with grape halo on both sepals and ruf. wide petals. Very large pastel green throat. Medium ht., multiple, wide branching. Very floriferous ......\$50.00

WIDE LOAD—TET HEM (Illini Destiny X tet Driven Snow sdlg.) 26" diu dor M-MLa 6.5" flower 3.3" petal 2.7" sepal. Blunt parts. Proliferates. Ruf. and creped, recurved almost wide open lt. pink-green near white cream with small green throat Lee Pickles of Hixson, TN will co-introduce this and Illini Princess with me.

#### **Some Former Siberian Introductions**

'83 DANCE BALLERINA DANCE—TET Pink amoena Morgan-Wood Medal '85 DEMURE ILLINI—Popular, rich grape red. Lg. white signal, red veins \$20.00 '88 ILLINI DAME—TET Pink amoena M 3 br., 7 buds. Fine performing TET '89 ILLINI GLORY—V. wide, v. dark maroon red. Lustrous, ruffled falls \$45.00 '89 ILLINI PURPLE PEPPER—EM. V. Wide, ruffled, dappled mid-purple

'90 ILLINI RUBY—M. Bright red, white signals, 2 br., 3 + buds . . . . . \$50.00 '89 ILLINI STARDUST—Favorite, wide, flaring br. lt. blue, white signals \$50.00

'83 KING OF KINGS-ML-L 2 br. 4 buds. Jaunty, lg. wide white self with faint green veins. Excellent cut flowers. HM, AM, 1990 Morgan Wood Medal \$15.00

'90 MEMPHIS MEMORIES—(DBD X Illini Flirt) TET 25" EM 3" bloom 3 br. 6 buds. Lavender pink near amoena. Best blooming SIB clump at Memphis Conv.

'88 PRECIOUS DOLL-M-L-VL 24" unique. Lav/lilac 3 br. 6 buds. Round \$55.00 '88 PRECIOUS ILLINI-EM-M. Beautiful dappled lt. blue, falls edged deeper

We invite you to share the beauty of our flowers. Normal TB Iris peak bloom is May 15

to 25, with lilac and peony seasons overlapping that period. Hem peak is July 10 to 20. Easily reached from Interstates 57, 72 and 74.

TERMS: Cash, minimum mail order \$20.00. Prices NET. Add \$4.00 to Each shipment. Foreign customers pay actual costs of air mail plus \$25 for phytosanitary inspection and certificate. Shipments made in order received, bearded iris starting July 5 and Siberians and hems Sept. 5, unless special dates are arranged. Order from this ad or send \$1.00 for our 1991 garden list containing descriptions of our other plants and listing others' Siberians and hems. Satisfaction guaranteed.

#### MISSION BELL GARDENS

2778 West 5600 South

Roy, Utah 84067

#### 1991 Introductions



FERN MAW (Hamblen) 34" ML. Ruffled ros	е
pink, falls widely banded deep rose pink	ζ,
cerise beards \$30.0	0

**JOYCE MEEK** (Hamblen) 34" E-L. Creamy amber, broad fall borders of deeper amber, burnt sienna beards ......\$30.00

See page 64, January Bulletin, for more complete descriptions. No catalog, order from this ad. Extras, Hamblen varieties only.

Postage and handling—\$2.00

Melba Hamblen

#### 1991 Introductions from Iris Country

Cher (R. Nelson '91) TB M 31"

Same per orchid violet with bright purple highlights and bright orange-red beards. Doomed standards and wide, flaring falls, "plenty of ruffles" with well budded stalks. Vigorous and beautiful. HC '86

Million Miles (R. Nelson '91) TB M 31" \$35.00 Clean mid violet-blue with lighter falls bedecked with curls of rippled ruffles. Widely flaring form and S-curved stalks that are ideally branched. Popular with Region 13 visitors last season.

Sensuality (R. Nelson '91) TB M 30" \$35.00 Soft true pink with lavender flash below grayed orange beards. Broad and flaring form, branched stems support up to 9 buds.



# iris courtry

ROGER R. NELSON 6219 TOPAZ ST. NE Dept.B BROOKS, OR 97305

Catalog \$1.00, deductible with order

#### Joe Pye Weed's Garden

Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks

45 Elm Street Bedford, MA 01730

#### 1991 INTRODUCTIONS:

**BETWEEN THE LINES**—VERSICOLOR. Schafer/Sacks (Seedling No. SP85-2-4), 22", M. This is the bluest versicolor we have ever seen. Yet the blue is an optical illusion created between the lines of the violet-blue veining and the white ground. This fascinating effect is enhanced by a yellow signal with a prominent green throat. (Exhibition Certificate 1988). Sib to Little Rhyme . . . . . . . . \$25.00

LITTLE RHYME—VERSICOLOR. Schafer/Sacks (Seedling No. SP85-2-1), 12", M. A tiny treasure of pure white with lime green hafts and yellow signals heavily veined in green. The plant and flower are in perfect proportion. (Best seedling in show 1987). From a series of seedlings going back to Stella Main . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . \$25.00

Prices include postage Send for complete list and descriptions Ups 2nd Day Air add \$2.00 per order

#### SILENT AUCTION

AIS & Section Bulletins, books, etc., etc., etc. Please send SASE for complete list to:

MARYANN ANNING, 1134 Tangerine Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94087

# 1990 REGISTRATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS BOOKLET NOW AVAILABLE See AIS Sales Ad Page 101



# SMALL and TALL IRISES from EVELYN and BENNETT C. JONES

5635 S.W. Boundary Street Portland, Oregon 97221

#### **Introductions for 1991**

MERCEDES OLSEN (B. Jones) TB, Sdlg. 86-15-1: 81-17: ((orange sdlg. x Gold Galore) x (Orange Harvest x Gold Galore)) X 84-7: (((May Dancer x Elizabeth Stuart) x Shoop sdlg.) x ((Orange Chariot x Bright Butterfly) x Bright Life)). Ruffled and swirling standards of bright canary yellow are closed and firmly held. Falls are white with deeper yellow hafts and a neat band of crinkled yellow to match the standards. Fiery red beards are striking accents to beautifully formed flowers, eight of them to each stalk. Named for an iris fancier and a friend of long standing. \$30.00

#### **Standard Dwarf Irises**

PINK PREVUE (B. Jones) Sdlg. 349-1: 304: (((Roberts 65R11 x tall pink) x (Carpathia x Seventh Heaven)) x Melon Honey) X 271: ((Roberts 65R10 x Roberts 70R32) x ((tall pink x Carpathia) x Seventh Heaven)). This is our entry into the realm of pink SDBs. This pink, at last, we feel is worthy of introduction. Though it charts out as peach pink, the color is opaque, presenting the pinkest pink of any SDB we know with a depth of color that carries from a distance. Peach pink standards are domed and closed, flaring falls are pink salmon blending outwardly to the color of the standards. Nicely formed and a dainty little iris. 11" . . \$10.00

Order from this ad or send for our list of previous introductions featuring Orange Tiger, Favorite Angel, Oregold, Sun Doll and California Style to name a few.

Please add \$2.50 for postage and handling

### KANSAS RAINBOW GARDEN ROBERT JEFFRIES

	Phone (316) 398-2417 91 with Keith Fillmore of E	
purple, domed and bright saturn red be area in hafts. 7 buds and pleated, lightly I No. J81-2-A. Adn	40" M-L. Standards whing touching, slightly operands. Falls are imperion well-branched stalk aced. Vigorous grower, nired in Omaha Cor	en at base to reveal al purple with lighter s. Entire flower, ruffled lots of increase. Sdlg. nvention Gardens
JULIE STANTON-TE	3 42" M-L. Mimosa yello	w standards with light
lavender at base. Farim color of standard blue dart below. 7 blue flower is pleated and Song of Norway) Us	alls lightest shade of made. Cadmium orange be buds on strong well-brade ruffled. Sdlg. J84-3-Y/se for yellows and whit	nimosa yellow with 1/4" eards tipped blue and anched stalks. Entire W/A: (Fringed Lace X es with blue beards
	DB 11". Royal purple s	
purple spot on falls. I foliage on well-brand el X Baby Baron)	Dark blue beards. Three ched stalks. Sdlg. J83-E	e blooms borne above 01-KS: (Sapphire Jew- \$10.00 Net.
	VIOUS INTRODUCTION	
	TB 36" Salmon pink	•
beards tipped dark yellows and white wi	0 TB 32" M-L. Pale ve violet blue. Sib to JULI ith blue beards 9 34" M-L. Methyl violet	E STANTON. Use for \$20.00
	ractive!	9
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	AKE '89 SDB. Light ta	
	appealing as its name s	9
ORCHID LANE '88 E	& RE. Dark orchid reblo I on the West Coast	omer of good quality.
AMARILLO RUFFLE	<b>S</b> '88 TB VE-M. Bright	mimosa yellow self,
Drilliant!	00// 1 2222222112222	
	20". Lemon yellow or go ke the color of this one	
	B 24" E-M. Canary yel	
canary yellow with b	prown wash, canary yel	llow rim. Pleated and
	e 1991 introductions for \$50	
Please order from to	his ad Send \$3 00 for nost	age and handling

#### KARY IRIS GARDENS

#### **Introductions for 1991**

F	IEART WARMER (Peterson) TB, 30" L. Chrysanthemum crimson
	(HCC 824/1) self with burnt orange (HCC 14) beards. It has ruffles
	and lace here in the Phoenix area. It has more ruffles and more lace
	in cooler areas. Beautiful, rich color\$30.00

#### **Previous Introductions**

**NEW MELODY** (Peterson '88) AB (1/4). Perky purple arilbred with splashes of white. Very showy clump ......\$10.00

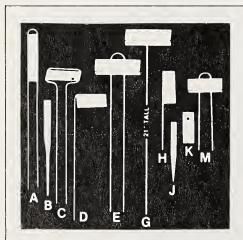
**PINK BETTERMENT** (Peterson '85) AB (1/2). Large rich medium pink from Heart Stealer. Large black beards. Great increaser \$4.00

Ray and Ardi Kary

6201 E. Calle Rosa

Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Write for Free Catalog Generous Bonus Irises Include \$3.00 for shipping



#### THE PERMANENT METAL LABEL

A — Hairpin Style Markers	30 For \$10.00
B — Plant or Shrub Labels	
C — Cap Style Markers	30 For \$10.40
D — Swinging Style Markers	30 For \$ 8.60
E — Rose Markers	30 For \$ 9.50
F — Tall Display Markers	30 For \$13.05
G — Tall Single Staff Markers	30 For \$10.30
H — Flag Style Markers	
J — Small Plant Labels	100 For \$ 6.85
K — Tie-On Labels	100 For \$10.90
M — Miniature Markers	30 For \$ 8.10

#### PAW PAW EVERLAST LABEL CO.

Box 93-H

Paw Paw, Michigan 49079-0093

Quantity Prices Available

Postage Prepaid



#### SUTTON'S GREEN THUMBER

16592 Road 208 Porterville, CA 93257

Irises from around the world! Featuring irises from America, Australia, France and Great Britain. For 1991, we are honored to introduce for the world-renowned hybridizer from England, Robert Nichol.

- **BABY BENGAL** (Sutton '90) BB. A great seller last year. This cutie has yet to grow out of class. It was voted best border in the Fresno show last spring. Mustard yellow with red brown stripes on F . . . . \$18.00

Look to next year for more irises from the United Kingdom including this year's British Dykes Medal Winner, HIGH PEAKS from Brian Dodsworth.

Catalog \$1.00—refunded with purchase





Don & Bobbie Shepard 3342 W. Orangewood Phoenix, AZ 85051 Ph (602) 841-1231

#### 1991 INTRODUCTIONS

We are very proud to introduce tall bearded cultivars from Bernard Hamner of Perris, CA, Spuria cultivars from Floyd Wickenkamp of Sun City, AZ and Charlie Jenkins of Salinas, CA.

- **HONEY BUTTER** (Hamner '91) TB-32"-M. Beautiful mixture of honey and butter. Tight, ruffled standards are pale orange shaded yellow. Falls light orange, yellow-orange ruffled edge. Tangerine beard. Sdlg. #84-108 (Peach Sundae X (Party Parfait x Beauty Crown)) **\$30.00**

- **SNOW BURST** (Hamner '91) TB-38"-M. Ruffled and bouncy like new born snow! Standards are pure white, falls are snow edged with a narrow violet blue edge. Sdlg. #83-6 (Dutch Girl X Glistening Icicle) \$30.00
- **ORO DE SONORA** (Wickenkamp '91) SPU-54"-ML. Very large full orange-yellow self. The falls are wavy and ruffled with a slightly darker stripe on mid-rib. Sdlg. #SP-84-3 (Butter Paddle X McCown sdlg) \$20.00
- **LIGHTED SIGNAL** (Jenkins '91) SPU-40"/48"-M. This vibrant blue-purple is lit up by a unique bright yellow signal diffused at the edges with rounded form. Sdlg. #C26-36E (Ping X Terra Nova) **\$20.00**

**LOOK AGAIN** (Jenkins '91) SPU-31"/43"-EM. This purple can be seen clear across the yard. Star points shape the distinguishable yellow signal. Sdlg. #B5-1D (Equality X Ada Perry) ..... \$20.00

UNIVERSAL PEACE (Jenkins '91) SPU-36"/47"-M. A large signal area of yellow covers most of the fall. Purple lines radiate from the ½" edging of purple into the yellow. The back side has an ivory ground with darker yellow in the center. Standards are solid purple on the outside with yellow radiating up the inside. Unlike its father, this has good growth patterns. Sdlg. #B5-3D (Equality X Crow Wing) . . . \$20.00

**WHITE SHIMMER** (Jenkins '91) SPU-35"/49"-E. Loved by garden visitors, this lacy fringed white has a pale yellow signal. Very strong growth. Sdlg. #A20-11B (Ila Crawford X Dawn Candle) . . . \$20.00

Please add \$3.00 postage & handling. Catalog on request for 1st Class stamp.

#### SHEPARD IRIS GARDEN.

3342 W. Orangewood

Phoenix, AZ 85051

#### **GEORGE A. SHOOP**

12560 S.W. Douglas

Portland, OR 97225

**SNOW CROWN** (Shoop '91) TB, 36", M. Pink amoena with tangerine beards. Well branched with 7 buds. Ruffled. Sdlg. 84-13 ..... \$30.00

**ISLAND DANCER** (Shoop '91) TB, 34", M. Rich chocolate brown standards; deep orange falls with tangerine beards. Good stalks with 6 buds. Sdlg. 85-5-1 . . . . . . . . . \$30.00

Please see color ad on page 63.

#### **NEW FOR 1991**

**LAVENDER JEWELS**—TB, 34", E-M. A lavender self with lavender beards. Nicely ruffled flowers on well-branched stalks. Excellent growth and increase with 7 or more blooms. Many bloom stalks. Sdlg. 33-84: Shipshape X Noble Gentry. HC 1989 . . . . . . . . . . . \$30.00

#### MRS. RICHARD (ELEANOR) KEGERISE

4306 Seventh Avenue

Temple, PA 19560

#### WALTER A. MOORES

Route 5. Box 189-B

Starkville, MS 39759

#### 1991 REBLOOMING INTRODUCTIONS

**SUMMER SURF**—TB, 36" EM & RE. A pale lavender and darker lavender violet bitone with pale yellow beards that can be in bloom off and on from summer to frost, its slightly ruffled flowers of thickest substance are borne on tall, widely branched stalks. This iris is not for sale but is offered as a companion plant to Pink Reprise. Summer Holidays X Hawaiian Surf.

My 1990 introductions of **ARIL REVERIE** (\$12.50) or **LAKE REPRISE** (\$20), Both rebloomers, may be chosen as an extra in place of **SUMMER SURF** if you so desire.

Send stamp for price list.

Add \$3.00 for postage or UPS.



## **COLORADO CREATIONS**

P.O. Box 19 Boulder, CO 80306 1991—Tall Bearded Introductions

BIG BUCK (Joseph Hoage) Sdlg. H80-5A. Named for Tom M. Brown, late of Region 13. A nickname given Tom by an Indian native to the Northwest. A large, tall medium blue self with very dark blue beards. Attention getting 38" tall, 7-9 well spaced flowers, season M-L. Admired at Phoenix convention garden at the Pointe—HC 1987. Song of Norway X Evening Echo
GRAPE SITUATION (D. Miller) Region 20 youth member Shelly Moller helped to name this "situation". It's a grape juice self that will please you with its 8-10 buds, well placed on a 36"-38" stalk. Expect good vigor and a long bloom season
LIGHTED LANTERN (Tom Magee) 36" M. Floods the show bench with 4 or 5 lights along pole stalk. In the garden a thousand points of light. Wide, white frosted glass, overlapping standards & falls. Beards peek out fire red. EC 1985, EC 1986, 2 ECs 1990. ((Above All x Fuji's Mantle) x (Mary Randall x Strike-Me-Pink sib)) X (Colorado Sunshine x White Lightning). See color ad on page 62
NORMA JEAN (John Durrance) 36" ML Sdlg. D86-44. This ruffled intense pink with 8 buds possesses the same star quality of its namesake. Coral Satin X Custom Made
<b>ORANGE JEWELIUS</b> (D. Miller) A frothy soft orange with brick red jewel beards. The falls have a soft lemon yellow overlay. Expect this Jewelius to give you 7 or 8 buds on a 36" stalk. EC 1988, HC 1990 \$25.00
ORCHID PINSTRIPE (Ray Lyons) 28" ML Sdlg. 80-15-5. 5-7 buds. "Different" and "Striking" best describe this iris. It is white, shaded orchid with distinct orchid veins on both standards and falls. A slight tuck graces the tip of each fall at the midline and a narrow band of crepe crosses near the tip of the standards. The standards are up and touch and the falls flare downward. The beards are gold tipped on very pale orchid. EC 1988 Petite Posy X Mattie Silks
ORETTA'S SHADOW (John Durrance) 36" ML Sdlg. D84-22. 7 buds. This ruffled medium blue purple is a sib to Oretta McCarthy and has been "shadowing" her in several gardens. At the Omaha convention gardens she appeared under her sister's name, but is much darker and of more voluptuous physique

#### . . . more COLORADO CREATIONS

**PEAK EXPERIENCE** (Joseph Hoage) Sdlg. H80-4A. Joseph Campbell, noted authority on Mythology, describes a Peak Experience as actual moments of life when you experience your relationship to the harmony of being—e.g. winning an athletic event, scoring high on a difficult test, receiving a coveted award. Peak Experience is a pink amoena—white standards, medium pink falls with pink beards. Smooth appearance. Height 34"; 5-7 buds; M-L season. Increase-slow, because of multiple bloom stalks. H72-12: (Pink Sleigh x After All) X Peach Spot . \$30.00

SUNPOLKA (Tom Magee) 39" E. Bold, bright, whirling, gold, ruffled and laced standards, falls, styles and beards. White apron blaze on falls. HC 1990. EC 1990. Swing King X Hoopskirts. See color ad on page 62 ......\$30.00

Order directly from this ad or request a copy of our free 1991 price list for a complete listing of available varieties.

We invite you to visit us during blooming time (late May and early June) to see these and other mile-high grown Colorado Creations. We're also pleased to be the site of the Region 20 Display Garden. This garden showcases 1989 and 1990 tall bearded introductions from hybridizers outside of Colorado. This year you can view more than 240 varieties from 70 hybridizers.



Celebrating our 86th year! P.O. Box 19 Boulder, Colorado 80306

Please see next page for Border Bearded Introductions . . .

### . . . more COLORADO CREATIONS

#### 1991—Border Bearded Introductions

ANNIE Mc (D. Miller) Named after that great lady, Anne McLaughlin
Long, the similarities are numerous. Both Anne and Annie are warm
white haired ladies with a lot of curls (very laced). Both have peppy
tongues (beards) that lean toward the fiery (red) side. Both are short o
stature (24"), but are very sturdy (heavy stalk) and have a lot of hear
(substance)

- **TINK** (John Durrance) 26" EM. Sdlg. D86-2. 6 buds. Tinker Belle at her Sunday best. A lovely pastel bicolor with lavender standards, gold falls, and gold-orange beards. Little Suzie X Tinker Tam .........\$20.00



Please see preceding pages for ordering information and a listing of our tall bearded introductions.

#### MEDIAN SPREE IN '93 OKLAHOMA CITY MEDIAN CONVENTION

#### **GUEST IRIS REQUEST**

The Sooner State Iris Society will be hosting a national median convention in the spring of 1993, immediately before the Ft. Worth National. The dates for "Median Spree in '93" are Friday, April 16 through Sunday, April 18, 1993, culminating with a national median show and awards luncheon. "Keeper" trophies will be given to the winners of the Best In-Region and Best Out- of-Region Seedlings and Best In-Region and Best Out-of-Region Introductions.

There will be 8 gardens on tour to show off your latest and best (4 of the gardens were on tour at our national convention in '88, and there are 4 new gardens). Although we would anticipate being at peak Intermediate Bearded bloom on these dates, we will gladly accept guest plants from all median classes (including aril-medians).

Send guest irises to:

Gail Wettstein, Guest Iris Chairperson

c/o Peggy Estes

2429 N.W. 36 Terr.

Oklahoma City, OK 73112

Gail: (405) 949-1739; Peggy: (405) 946-2749.

When sending guest irises, please observe the following guidelines:

- 1. Guest irises will be accepted *only* this year, and *only* from August 1 through August 31, 1991. NO guest plants will be accepted in Summer 1992.
- 2. Guests should be limited to introductions of recent vintage and seedlings under serious consideration for introduction.
- 3. A maximum number of 30 introductions and/or seedlings per hybridizer will be accepted. Hybridizers may send up to 3 plants per variety, for a total maximum number of 90 plants.
- 4. Please include the following information with each plant to be guested:
  - a. Hybridizer's name and address.
  - b. Name/seedling number of the variety/seedling.
  - c. Classification (type) of iris.
  - d. Height and color description.
  - e. Season of bloom (e.g., Early, Midseason, Late, etc.).
  - f. Year of introduction (if applicable).
  - g. A master packing list of all guests received.
- 5. All official median guests will be listed in the Median Spree in '93 Convention Booklet. Any corrections/updates of information (e.g., the naming of a seedling, the year of introduction added, etc.) *must* be reported to the Guest Iris Chairperson by December 1, 1992, in order for the garden markers and convention booklet to accurately reflect the change.
- 6. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors, listing the garden assignments of the plants. Contributors will also be contacted in Spring 1993 regarding the disposition of plants. A reply regarding disposition must be received from the contributor no later than June 1, 1993. All returned guests (if requested) will be shipped during the month of July 1993.
- 7. If any losses occur, the hybridizer will be notified in Spring 1992 and given the opportunity to send replacement plants during August 1992.
- 8. AIS convention policy regarding the guest iris Code of Ethics, will be strictly adhered to. No guest plant will be traded, sold, or hybridized.



# MILLER'S MANOR GARDENS 1991 INTRODUCTIONS

Roger & Lynda Miller 3167 E. U.S. 224 Phone 219-597-7403 Ossian, IN 46777

ANGEL'S HALO (L. Miller) SDB, 11", M. A reverse amoena plicata.
Standards cream with light blue violet edge dotting toward midrib. Falls white with a few lines on hafts. Cream yellow style arms with light blue violet wash. Perfect round ruffled flaring form. EC 1989. Sdlg. 3787C:
Hee Haw X 833A: (Dragons in Amber x Pepper Mill) \$12.50
BIT O'MAGIC (L. Miller) BB, 23", M. Light venetian pink. Round ruffled falls are splattered dark violet purple to ¼" of edge. Tangerine beards. Sdlg. 6185B: (Evening in Paris X Far Corners) \$25.00
LATE NIGHT (L. Miller) SDB, 13", E-M. Ruffled and flaring blue black falls, pale at the edge. Open full violet standards expose full violet style arms edged cream. Bluebird blue beards are tipped gold. 3 buds. Sdlg. 105A: Jennie Grace X Unknown
MAYA MEADOW (A. Machulak) MDB, 7¾", M. Brilliant green yellow. Falls are wide and flaring rimmed bright yellow. Small red spots below orange beards. Blossoms give the illusion of gold. 2 buds. Sdlg. 79-27-17: Nu Nu X unknown
PARTY QUEEN (L. Miller) TB, 28", M. The life of the party wants to be noticed so she is brilliantly colored. Standards are magenta rose. Falls are dark ruby red with a magenta rose line running down from her burnt orange beards. Style arms are dark apricot. Sdlg. 4385C: Far Corners X Marmalade
<b>PEACH PARTY</b> (L. Miller) SDB, 13", M-L. Big sister to Neon Pixie has standards of full peach with straw yellow glow at the edge. Ruffled falls are peach with light spanish orange shading at the hafts beside creamy yellow beards tipped orange. Sdlg. 2986C: Fruit Salad X Bright Vision \$12.50
<b>PEEPERS</b> (L. Miller) MDB, 4", E. Pure white with crisply defined dark hyacinth blue spots on falls. White beards on this bright eyed pumila. Sdlg. 187C: (What Not x Wee Sooner) X (Inca Toy x unknown) \$10.00
SUNNY TYKE (L. Miller) MDB, 4", E. Pumila of smooth ivory with a bright gold halo on the falls, which are split in half by ivory beards. Sdlg. 285: Baby Smile X unknown
TOPAZ JEWEL (L. Miller) TB, 38", M-L. Tall stately ruffled jewel of deep rich butterscotch with blue white rayed area on the falls below the orange yellow beards. Sdlg. 3685B: Orange Empire X Radiant Summer
Add \$2.50 masters and handling other administration of the second

Add \$3.50 postage and handling when ordering from this ad. Send two stamps for a descriptive calalog.

#### **MELROSE GARDENS**

Ben R. Hager Sid DuBose 309 Best Road South Stockton, California 95215

OUR SECOND ANNUAL "FAREWELL" BROCHURE! Listing our TALL BEARDED and REBLOOMING IRIS INTRODUCTIONS—ONLY—for 1991 and three previous years. Color photos. \$1.00 on request.

- **CONTRIBUTION** (Hager '91) TB. Flourescent fuchsia purple (or magenta) throughout. Well branched and many buds. Our gift to you on orders of \$35.00 plus.
- **PHIL EDINGER** (Hager '91) NON-BEARDED hybrid. This is a sibling to the previously introduced seedling from Holden Clough that was named ROY DAVIDSON. Roy and Phil were the first to discover a seed on that parent iris. This one differs in that the signals are a darker brown with brown veining traces out over the deep yellow falls. Almost no standards, but they are blended brown also. Both of these hybrids are exceptionally vigorous in acid soils with plenty of water. . . . . \$25.00
- THE FOLLOWING IRIS HAS BEEN DONATED TO THE **CHIL-DREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF AMERICA** to celebrate their 100th year and to raise much needed funds for their work with children. ALL ORDERS MUST BE SENT TO THIS ORGANIZATION at 3200 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland, CA 94609 with payment enclosed of \$35.00 plus \$3.00 shipping charges.
- **CENTENNIAL CHILD** (Hager '91) TB. A child of ANNA BELLE BABSON, this fully formed and elegant peach pink iris displays its flowers on tall, sturdy and branched stems above vigorous plants. Sure to be popular. SEE ABOVE FOR PRICE AND ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS.

#### THE FUTURE OF MELROSE GARDENS

We are fortunate to have friends with iris catalogs who are willing to bring to you our future iris introductions. We are retiring, but NOT from growing new seedlings! Write for the following catalogs.

- **ADAMGROVE**—Route 1, Box 246, California, MO 65018 (catalog \$2.00) will bring you our new DWARF and MEDIAN irises.
- **CORDON BLEU FARMS**—P.O. Box 2033, San Marcos, CA 92069 (catalog \$1.00) will distribute our SPURIA irises and DAYLILIES.
- **THE ARIL PATCH**—3843 Concord Blvd., Concord, CA 94519, are offering Jonnye Rich's and our ARILBREDS.
- ENSATA GARDENS—9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053 (catalog \$2.00) brings you the JAPANESE iris introductions of Jonnye Rich, past and near future. Also, the recent introductions from Melrose Gardens of irises of Shuichi Hirao and Walter Marx.

MANLEY OSBORNE'S famous SPACE AGE irises may be had from MARYOTT'S GARDENS, 1073 Bird Ave., San Jose, CA 95125.

**HATFIELD GARDENS**—22799 Ringgold Southern Road, Stoutsville, OH 43154 (catalog \$2.00) for Sid's and Ben's FIRST DAFFODIL introductions.

#### **MELROSE GARDENS**

#### MINIATURE TALLS FROM OHIO GARDENS

Featuring Miniature Tall Bearded Iris introductions for 1991 of **Mary Louise Dunderman** and **W. Terry Varner**.

- **DESERT SHIELD** (Varner '91) Sdlg. 0-355. MTB 19" (48 cm) M-L. Golden yellow standards, lightly edged fall color. Falls yellow ground overlaid velvety dark red. Bright tangerine beards. Slight fragrance. Stands out in the flower bed \$15.00

Add \$2.00 postage and handling when ordering from this ad MTB Speciality Catalog---\$1.00 Catalog filled with helpful hints

#### **OHIO GARDENS**

102 Laramie Road

Marietta, OH 45750

#### **RIALTO GARDENS**

John Weiler 1146 W. Rialto Fresno, CA 93705

#### **OUTSTANDINGLY DIFFERENT IRISES**

Not Just Improvements On Old Themes



# 1991 INTRODUCTIONS THREE REBLOOMERS

	١
One TB	ì

#### Two SDB

#### THREE SPRING BLOOMERS

#### Two For The Fragrance Garden

#### **One Spectacular Accent**

SPECIAL OFFER FOR JOINING REBLOOMING IRIS SOCIETY

If you order and include a separate check to RIS, family triennial membership, \$12, receive free Mini Busy plus your choice of What Again or Indian Beauty; for a single triennial membership, \$10, receive Refined plus your choice of What Again or Indian Beauty.

Write for a free price list of Reblooming Bearded Irises

Include \$3 postage on orders
California residents add 6% state plus sales tax for your county



# THE BEAUTY OF IRIS

When Linnaeus began the scientific classification of plants in the 1700's he named the genus 'Iris' for the Greek Goddess of the Rainbow because of the wide, natural color range of irises. But see what's available now!

#### SEND ONLY \$2.00 FOR YOUR IRIS CATALOG

(Deductible from your first order!)

In our large, full-color catalog Roris Gardens features a color photo of each of the hundreds of varieties we offer! Each year we feature new introductions developed by some of the most famous hybridizers in the iris world. We feature some of the most elite hybrids on the market today for the iris fancier as well as beautiful, inexpensive flowers designed with the novice in mind. Browse through the catalog, select your flowers and mail in your order. We offer Bonus Irises and are generous with extras. Catalog also features cultural instructions. 1991 Catalogs will be mailed towards the end of March. Oh, have you heard about our 50% discount?

#### IRIS FESTIVAL: OPEN INVITATION

Roris Gardens will host an Iris Festival from April 13 thru May 5. Come and enjoy the friendly, homey atmosphere and bathe in the sight and fragrance of 15 acres of bloom!

Open to all. Free of Charge.

(Group Tours available with prior arrangement)

1991 Festival Dates: April 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28

May 3, 4, 5

Take Hwy 50 to Bradshaw Exit in Sacramento, go south about 6 miles. You can't miss us because you'll see the flowers on your left! (Please call if you need further instructions).

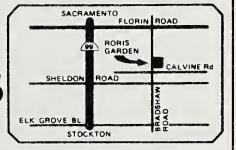
#### 1991 IRIS CALENDAR!

Each year Roris Gardens offers a beautiful Iris Calendar for your enjoyment. The large (15" x 20") format features a stunning color photo of a different iris for every month of the year. The dates are large and easy to read.

• • To get your calendar send \$5.00 plus \$2.00 shipping and handling to the address below. California residents add \$0.34 sales tax. We will also accept phone orders for charge to Visa and Master Card. Order early since supplies are limited!

# RORIS GARDENS

8195 Bradshaw Road, Sacramento, CA 95829 Phone: (916) 689-7460 FAX: (916) 689-5516



Presenting the 1991 Introductions of Monty Byers. This year we're proud to be introducing a dandy little orange rebloomer of Ben Hager's. One of several very exciting new things, we think!

For detailed descriptions of these, our previous introductions and all the other things we're listing this year, send for our free catalog.

#### MOONSHINE GARDENS—P.O. Box 367, Potter Valley, CA 95469

- **CONCOCTION**—IB. JUICY FRUIT X MY SHEBA. Blended mauve pink with a violet streak down from bluish b. tipped watermelon red-pink. \* Not very modern but it does have novel and strangely beautiful coloring. *And* early and super strong rebloom—á la Juicy Fruit. Incredible vigor! . . . . . . . . . \$20.00

- **DASHING**—TB. VIOLET MIRACLE X (CEASE-FIRE x SKY HOOKS). Medium deep purple with lighter area around blue b. \* Very good flaring flowers with rich coloring. Early, strong rebloom here—usually September or earlier \$35.00

ICELAND—TB. LATEST STYLE X (HALLOWED THOUGHT x GLISTEN-ING ICICLE). Snow white S. top ultra pale glacial blue F.—from blue buds. * Nice, semi-flaring, icy flowers. Multitudes of stalks in bloom, starting in September or early October here. Extremely vigorous! \$35.00
JUNGLE CAT—TB. GRACE THOMAS X (SPIRIT OF MEMPHIS x SKY HOOKS). Creamy light orange with rose brown F. stripes which diffuse into a blended wash halfway down; red orange b. * The tall stalks lack branching and buds but the flowers are something else indeed! Very large with excellent heavily ruffled form, very lacy as well! Extremely strong and early rebloom—summer on! Fascinating and fun!
<b>LILTING</b> —TB. ROSY CLOUD X (GARDEN GRACE x Hager seedling). Silvery oyster white S.; snow white F. stitched light red violet; cinnamon b. * This dainty amoena-plicata is very pretty. Very nice smaller lilting flowers on superb shorter stalks. October rebloom
<b>LUMINOSITY</b> —TB. GRACE THOMAS X VANITY. Opens medium canary yellow, lightens to luminous light yellow to cream with a brighter yellow heart. * This beautiful California sister of Jennifer Rebecca glows! A different "yellow". Loads of rebloom—September or early October here \$35.00
<b>ROTUNDA</b> —TB. LEDA'S LOVER X VIOLET CLASSIC. Medium deep violet with blue b. * This dark "Leda's Lover" gives tall masses of rebloom here—usually starting in mid October. Large, wide, rotund flowers \$35.00
<b>SECOND ACT</b> —TB. I DO X (CEASE-FIRE x SKY HOOKS). Medium yellow with cream F. centers which often carry icy blue undertones. * Good, big,
heavily ruffled flowers on tall stalks. Bountiful rebloom here, often starting in August or September, always by October
CAPE HORN—TB. SONG OF NORWAY X (CEASE-FIRE x HOOKS). Very
pale powder blue with showy blue b. and blue horns (sometimes spoons or flounces). * A more up-to-date, much more ruffled "Song of Norway"—space ager! What stalks!
GOTHIC—TB. MOONLIT X VISUAL ARTS. Tan S., hafts and blended borders
around orchid gray F.; violet b. tipped bright yellow. * Super all the way! Very fragrant. Heavily laced space agers will surely be its legacy\$35.00
MESMERIZER—TB. (SKY HOOKS x CONDOTTIERE) X BRANCHING
OUT. White with red b. and huge, uplifting white flounces which terminate in
light green button pompons centered within enfolding layers of white frills.  * Good flowers on tall show stalks. Consistently sports its flounces—the most
beautiful flounces I've ever seen!
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Friday, August 2, 1991

Registration at Hotel 2-6 p.m. Pot Luck Dinner - 6:30 p.m. Tulsa Garden Center 2435 S. Peoria

Registration Fee: \$20.00 per person \$ 5.00 Judging School For information: (918) 834-8914 Paul Gossett (918) 742-6101 Dorothy Light Saturday, August 3, 1991

Board Meeting at Hotel 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Judging School at Hotel 9:00 a.m. - 12 Noon

Lunch On Your Own 12:00 Noon - 1:00 p.m. Region 22 Business Meeting at Hotel 1 - 5 p.m. including Iris Auction Banquet at Hotel - 7:00 p.m.

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All of the above are Mary Dunn irises. Bob retired so took a year off to select seedlings for 1992.

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# The Lesson of 1990

David R. Rogers (New York)

For most, the wet fall of 1989 and the winter and spring of 1990 will be remembered as "The great Iris Disaster of 1990." This was the first year I ever had the experience of a commercial garden refunding my entire order—he had lost over half his plants. Extremely wet weather, combined with alternate mild and freezing weather, inflicted a severe toll due to soft rot and heaving damage in northern areas. However poor the season was, it brought some new lessons in how to cope with future problems. For me, it resulted in accidental discovery of a new propogation technique.

After having most clumps develop rot, I made a panic-filled telephone call to Terry Varner of Ohio Gardens. What Terry gave me is probably the simplest and most effective cure for rot yet devised. Virtually all literature advises digging all plants, which is impractical in a large planting. Exposure to sunlight after digging is one cure. Most sources, even "Basic Iris Culture," AlS's own literature, advises soaking rhizomes in a bleach solution followed by rinsing and replanting. Terry's method requires no digging, rinsing, or replanting, and is 100% effective in curing rot and also as a preventative measure. The entire bed is simply sterlized by spraying plants AND soil with a bleach solution. No rinsing is required. Although Terry did not specify the concentration, I had remarkable success using ½ cup of chlorine bleach per gallon of water. It does no damage to plants, and growth following treatment, if anything, seemed more vigorous.

Another accidental discovery this season tends to contradict most of the literature. When dividing irises, most readers have probably noticed that some literature advises leaving the old mother rhizome, which has already bloomed, attached to one increase and replanting. Other literature advises the opposite—to discard the mother rhizome as being of little use and prone to rot. The literature advising replanting indicates that the old rhizome serves as a food storage reservoir for the new plant. There is truth to both arguments.

However, this year when dividing, I discovered that there is a compromise which results in massive production of increases from the old rhizome. Once young plants were removed for replanting, I accidentally "discarded" old rhizomes on top of some bare soil. All were placed right side up with roots spread out on the surface when transplanting in July. When I went to remove these rhizomes to discard in September, I discovered that all were firmly attached to the ground with new roots. Furthermore, all had developed at least 6 to 12 new increases along the entire length of the mother rhizome—a tremendous rate of increase. This tends to prove that removal of all leaves and plants from the bloomstalk rhizome causes it to defend itself by producing an entire new crop of increases! As a result of this discovery, this technique will be used as a propogation method in the future. All of these rhizomes, by the end of October, have developed large new clumps. This experience has

taught me that the rhizomes I was advised to discard are probably the most valuable propogation material in the garden. From this, I have developed a technique which should be especially of value to commercial gardens or anyone trying to build enough stock to introduce a new variety.

- 1. Dig and divide rhizomes, replanting increases.
- 2. Spread mother rhizomes on the surface of good soil and keep the soil moist. This surface exposure eliminates the problem of rot, as it is one of the techniques used for treatment.
- 3. Allow rhizomes to develop new roots and increases.
- 4. Replant, leaving the upper half of the rhizome and any green increases exposed to sunlight. This should be done around October first. Water occasionally if overly dry. By the end of October, healthy new clumps will be developed.

In this year, not expecting any growth, I did not label the rhizomes and so, will have to wait to re-identify plants. Knowing now that they will grow, I strongly advise labeling with tags or other method. I hope that my discoveries of 1990 will be of use to all.

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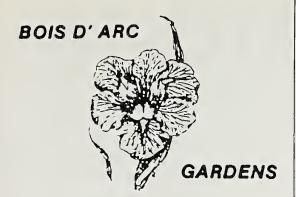
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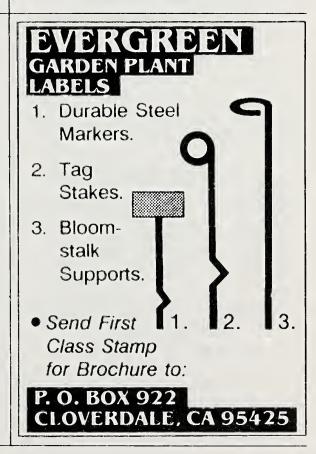
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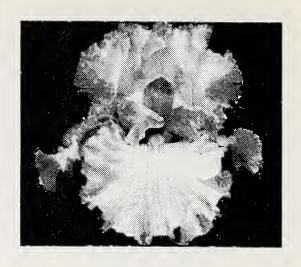
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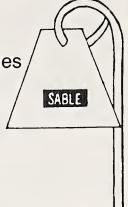
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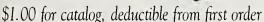
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Number 282 July 1991



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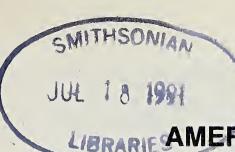
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# BULLETIN OF THE

## LIRRADIE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

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- —Communications concerning the **business matters** of the Society should be addressed to **Jeane Stayer**, 7414 E. 60th Street, Tulsa, OK 74145.
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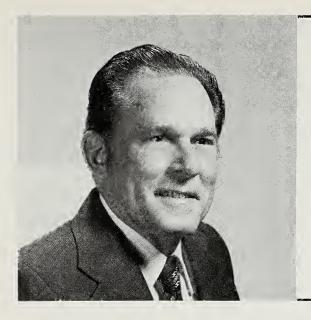
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#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Annual Presidential Letter	4
Oregon '94—Request for Beardless Guest	Irises 5
Region 5 Comes Alive in '92	
Pacific Coast Iris Cultivars	Lewis and Adele Lawyer 8
Intermediate Irises: A Personal Symposium	Bennett Jones
Outstanding Intermediates	Hooker Nichols
Double the Fun—Hybridizing Teams	
Our Addiction to Irises	Tony and Dorothy Willott 17
Hybridizing History of the Meeks	Joyce Meek
The Millers	Lynda Miller
The Dunns	Mary Dunn
Judges Handbook Revisions Available	
Choosing Intermediates for Your Garden	Dorothy Willott
AIS Affiliates 1991	Dave Niswonger 29
International Competition—Florence	
Should Gardens Have "God Parents?"	Donna Aldridge 44
Container Growing of Bearded Irises	David R. Rogers 46
Iris Scents	Louise Clay Smith51
Dr. Loomis Memorial Iris Trial Gardens	Mike Moller
AIS Dues Will Increase	Marilyn Harlow 62
Let's Talk Favorites	Dale Satterwhite 63
1991 Youth Achievement Awards	Catherine Long Gates 65
Maybe You Wanted to Know	Ronald Mullin 67
Favorite Guest Irises—Omaha 1990	
The 1991 Season—Marvelous	Ronald Mullin74
Regular F	Features
President's Message 3	Membership Rates48
AIS Sales Items 7	Youth Views65
In Memoriam39	How to Register and Introduce
Contribution Information	an Iris72
Contributions to AISF 40	Advertising Rates74
Slides for Rent	Commercial Directory 84
Advertisers	This Issue
Ames Cover 4	Rancho de la Flor de Lis73
Cape Iris Gardens50	Schultz Company74
Cordon Bleu	Dr. James Waddick 49
Paw Paw Everlast Labels48	

**ON THE COVER:** Having received praise from across the country for its quality, RARE EDITION (Gatty '80) is an IB which won the Sass Medal and was a runner-up for the Dykes Medal. Photo by Keith Keppel



# From the Desk of the President

Kenneth Waite

How can time pass so quickly? Another enjoyable bloom season is now history. The 'Go National' Convention was unforgettable and the host gardens a study of gardening expertise. Thank you, Region Four. The activities and tours will be reported in the October Bulletin.

The American Iris Society salutes The Society for Louisiana Irises on the Golden Anniversary of its founding. Their efforts have done much to preserve, improve, and promote the culture of this native American species. The iris world has benefited from their endeavors.

Another very successful convention of the Society for Japanese Irises has been concluded. This year it was held in the Portland, Oregon, area and reported to have been an outstanding affair. The trend toward section conventions is on the increase. In 1993 The Society for Siberian Irises will be holding their first conclave in Michigan.

Director Emma Hobbs has found it necessary to resign from The Board of Directors. Her service and efforts are appreciated and will be missed. Howard Shockey of region 23 has been appointed to complete her unexpired term. Mr. Shockey has served as AIS slides chairman for several years and is well known throughout the organization. We welcome him to the board.

Several committees continue to work on issues affecting the society. Color Classification and Patterns, Diamond Anniversary, Awards System Study, Computer Requirements of Registrar and Membership Offices, RVP Request of Voting Rights, and Dues and Finances are very important and require careful research and study. The organization is indebted to people who give so freely of their time and talents.

The first addendum of corrections and changes in the Judges' Handbook has been mailed to all judges. It is to be inserted in your loose-leaf booklet. Editor Mullin and Judges Training Chairman Crick have cooperated in getting this addition in print.

Your Symposium ballot is enclosed with this bulletin. Please vote and return it to your RVP before the deadline. Your participation is important whether you vote several or few of the listed varieties. The results are most helpful for new members to use as an aid in purchasing varieties for their gardens.

Has your club considered a booth or display to promote irises and AIS at your state or local agricultural fair? Some groups have found this to be most rewarding. Also, don't forget to share your surplus rhizomes with a gardening friend.

# **Annual Presidential Letter**

The American Iris Society July 1, 1991

Each year the terms of office expire for one-third of the twelve directors of The American Iris Society, and four are elected to fill those positions. As provided in the AIS bylaws, a five-member Personnel Committee recommends to the AIS Board of Directors candidates for nominations as directors. The Personnel Committee consists of two directors chosen by the Board of Directors, two RVPs elected by the Board of Counselors, and one Section member selected by the Section Advisory Board.

As approved during the spring, 1991, meeting in Falls Church, Virginia, one incumbent director eligible for an additional term was renominated, and in addition, Clarence Mahan, Harold Stahly, and Jean Witt were nominated to complete the slate of four. Therefore, approved in accordance with the AIS bylaws, the nominees are:

For regular three-year terms expiring in 1994:

Hilda Crick Clarence Mahan Dr. Harold Stahly Jean Witt

The bylaws provide that nominees may be made by any forty members of whom not more than fifteen may be located in any one region. Such additional nominations must be received by the AIS Secretary on or before September 1, 1991. Should additional nominations be made, a ballot on which all nominees are listed will be mailed on or before October 1, 1991, to all AIS members and must be received by the AIS Secretary or Election Committee (if one is appointed) on or before November 1, 1991. If there are no nominations in addition to those listed above, issuance of a ballot may be omitted.

KENNETH M. WAITE, President

# **OREGON '94**

# **Request for Beardless Guest Iris**

The Greater Portland Iris Society will host the 1994 American Iris Society Convention in Portland, Oregon. The Guest Iris Committee invites hybridizers to send guest rhizomes of recent introductions and seedlings of beardless irises under consideration for introduction.

When sending guest irises, please observe the following guidelines:

- 1. Three rhizomes of each variety should be shipped
- 2. The guest irises will be accepted from August 15 to October 15, 1991.
- 3. All official guest irises must be shipped to:

Ray & David Schreiner 1994 Co-Guest Iris Chairmen 3625 Quinaby Rd. NE Salem, OR 97303 503-393-3232

- 4. The name of the variety or seedling number should be clearly marked on each rhizome. In addition, the following information should accompany each plant on a SEPARATE PACKING LIST containing the contributor's address:
  - A. Hybridizer's name
  - B. Name or seedling number of the variety
  - C. Type of iris; i.e. LA., SPU., SIB.
  - D. Height and color
  - E. Year of introduction (if introduced)
- 5. When guest seedlings are named, it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Chairmen not later than December 1, 1993.
- 6. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. Shortly before the convention, contributors will be asked for instructons regarding the disposition of the plants. Failure to reply by June 15, 1994, will be interpreted as permission to destroy all stock. All official guest plants which are to be returned will be shipped postpaid, except to foreign addresses.
- 7. The Convention Committee and the owners of tour gardens will follow the statement of the code of ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook.
- 8. The Guest Iris Committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control, and only rhizomes received through the Guest Iris Chairmen will be listed in the Convention Handbook.

# "Region Five Comes Alive In 1992" Atlanta-1992

#### **Yvonne Ward Darnell**

"Georgia On My Mind" so goes our state song. All of us in Region 5 hope you will have "Georgia On Your Mind," April 28-May 2 of next year. All of our committee chairmen have been working very hard to make sure Atlanta-1992 will be one of the best AIS conventions ever. The host hotel will be the beautiful Waverly. The Waverly has a lobby with a beautiful staircase that is reminiscent of the "Gone With The Wind" era. The beautifully landscaped grounds will feature some of our guest iris beds.

Thirteen gardens will be on tour featuring over 1,000 guest irises. We have some very special gardens on tour, so be sure to bring plenty of film.

The welcome dinner will be at the Georgia Railroad Station in Underground Atlanta. There will be ample time for dining and touring Underground.

We will have three tours available.

They are: Governor's Mansion/Atlanta Historical Society

Cyclorama/Atlanta Botanical Garden

Callaway Gardens

The information on these tours will be in the registration ad in a later AIS Bulletin.

Atlanta is a very exciting city to visit whether you're single or have a family. Six Flags Over Georgia, Stone Mountain, Kennesaw National Battlefield, and Zoo Atlanta are just a few of the interesting places to visit.

American Iris Society Conventions			
1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998	Atlanta, GA Fort Worth, TX Portland, OR Hershey, PA Sacramento, CA Denver, CO	April 28-May 2 April 20-25 May 21-25	

## **AIS SALES ITEMS**

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Set of four color fans, plus instruction leaflet.	
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silver background. (50 per pack)	
Self-adhesive ovals larger than a half dollar,	
AIS SEALS	
prizes, and special awards.	· ·
The AIS 50th Anniversary medal in antiqued	
BRONZE ANNIVERSARY MEDALS	\$2.50
BULLETIN 1 (Reprint)	\$3.00
BULLETINS: Back issues, if available	\$3.00
1986 \$4.00	1990 \$5.00
1985 \$4.00	1989 \$4.00
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REGISTRATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS—	
Reprint, Ten-year compilation of registrations	1970-79.
1979 IRIS CHECK LIST	
Reprint. Ten-year compilation of registrations	
1969 IRIS CHECK LIST	
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1988 AIS MEMBERSHIP BOOK. A complete	
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A 32-page booklet covering the basic aspec	
BASIC IRIS CULTURE	
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# **Pacific Coast Iris Cultivars**

Lewis and Adele Lawyer (California)

When we were asked to write an article about favorite named cultivars of the Pacific Coast iris for the National Bulletin, I thought there would be no problem, but the more I thought about it the more I realized that with the *Californicae*, more so than most other irises, the choice of your favorite cultivar would largely depend on where you happened to live. With this in mind, I asked the District Representatives of the ALMANAC, bulletin of the Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris (SPCNI), to survey members in each of their territories. In the following paragraphs, Adele and I have summarized this and other pertinent information received from various sources.

Other than areas in or near their native haunts along the Pacific Coast, the PCI's are not easily grown in most parts of the United States. They are well adapted, however to parts of Australia, New Zealand, and the British Isles, in fact the first hybridizing of record was done by Dykes and Amos Perry in England in the early 1900's using species brought there by plant explorers from the Paific coast. Later, between 1948 and 1958, H.S. Fothergill in London, introduced a dozen or more PCI's, but, despite the fact that English and Northern California hybrids seem to flourish in each other's territory, none of these introductions remain in commerce in the United States.

The most prolific hybridizer in England was Marjory Brummitt, who, between 1955 and 1982, introduced 32 named cultivars. BANBURY GNOME, introduced in 1974, is still a favorite in our garden and, judging by answers to our survey, grows well in the difficult areas of the central United States. Color is a red violet with a darker spot on the falls. BANBURY PRINCESS, introduced in 1974, is one of our favorites because of the delicate pink color of the flower, and the small, compact plants.

Named, selected species were introduced for garden use by California and Oregon irisarians as early as 1939, about the same time that the Sass brothers were reaching the peak of their tall bearded breeding work in Nebraska, but the first controlled crosses of record in the U.S. were not introduced until 1948 and 1949.

For several years between the mid 1940's and, the early 1970's, most of the named PCI crosses were introduced by Southern California enthusiasts. In 1943, Eric Nies of Hollywood introduced ORCHID SPRITE, parentage unknown, which was awarded an AM in 1948 and which is still widely grown in Southern California. In 1947, he registered AMIGUITA, a selected Iris *douglasiana* bright blue bitone with a dark purple signal. Winner of the Mitchell Award in 1974, AMIGUITA has been widely used by other hybridizers and is still grown throughout California and other areas where the PCI are adapted. BLUE SAGE, registered by Nies that same year, is a rather dull, blue violet self, but vigorous, and widely adapted to areas with hot climates. Amiguita and

Blue Sage were commended by growers in Southern California and in the hot Central Valley of California.

Between 1949 and 1983, Dr. Lee W. Lenz, then Director of the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont, introduced over 25 named cultivars. Included among these are some spectacular hybrids involving *Iris munzii* in their parentage. These include such sought-after items as ALMA ABELL, CLAREMONT BLUEJAY, CLAREMONT BLUEBIRD, and SIERRA SAPPHIRE, the latter a pure *I. munzii* selection which won the Mitchell Award in 1977. Unfortunately, however, despite the fact that everyone who sees them, drools with lust, they seem to be adapted primarily to the area where they were selected.

Marion Walker of Ventura, President of AIS from 1956 to 1960, introduced OJAI and VIOLET ELF in 1959. OJAI, is a pale violet, ruffled-petaled seedling from Amiguita. Winner of the first Mitchell Award in 1973, it has proved to be adapted in the central United States, and is still widely grown in both northern and southern California. VIOLET ELF, a pale violet self, also emanating from Amiguita, is still one of our favorites, and seems well adapted in our Bay Area, California garden.

Richard Luhrsen of Inglewood introduced many named selections and crosses between 1953 and 1957, but so far as I know, AMI ROYALE, which he never even bothered to register, is the only one still surviving. The flowers of Ami Royale, still another Amiguita child, have violet standards with pale bluish margins and falls of deep plum purple edged with lavender on a small compact plant.

The fifth hybridizer, and a great promoter of the PCI in Southern California was George Stambach of Pasadena who introduced eleven named cultivars between 1962 and 1978. Two of his introductions still surviving are WESTERN QUEEN, introduced in 1972, and GARDEN DELIGHT, introduced in 1975. Western Queen, winner of the Mitchell Award in 1976, is a near white. Garden Delight is a very pretty creamy yellow self which seems comparatively well adapted in the more-hostile environments.

In 1972, Jack McCaskill introduced CHIMES and FAIRY CHIMES through his father's McCaskill Nursery in Pasadena. Both of these pure white beauties are still favorites in our garden, and both are reported to thrive in more difficult areas, Chimes being the second most popular cultivar in our survey. Despite the popularity of these two cultivars, however, the McCaskills are most noted for distributing thousands of unnamed seedlings over a span of many years, for landscaping in Southern California gardens.

August Phillips was not a serious breeder, but, like George Stambach, he was an ardent friend of the natives, and at least two of his introductions perform admirably in hot summer areas. Both SUSIE KNAPP, a blue-gray self introduced in 1970, and NATIVE WARRIOR, a near red introduced a year later, were commended by growers in central U.S. and the hot San Joaquin valley in California. Native Warrior was the Mitchell Award winner in 1975, and both are offspring of Amiguita.

In 1974 Dara Emery of the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden introduced the 1978 Mitchell Award winner CANYON SNOW, a chance seedling of *Iris douglasiana* with nearly pure white flowers. Vigorous almost everywhere it has been tried, Canyon Snow, in our survey, was the most popular of all cultivars. While Santa Barbara isn't exactly "Southern California," its climate must have furnished enough selection pressure in the way of heat to make Canyon Snow adaptable in all summer heat areas. Canyon Snow is by far the favorite named cultivar of landscape designers throughout California, competing admirably with the McCaskill and Ghio unselected-seedlings for this distinction.

Delores Denney's CANYON ORCHID, which she introduced in 1985, has warm violet blooms on robust plants. One of our favorites, it was also praised by growers in the warm Central Valley and in Southern California.

NOVIA DEL MAR, an *Iris munzii*-derived cultivar introduced by Dora Foster of Vista in 1976, is still growing well in some Southern California gardens. This cross between Sierra Sapphire and Chimes has flowers of creamy yellow, but the falls have a blue overlay and are veined blue violet.

In 1970, Joe Ghio, of Santa Cruz in Northern California, took over where the Southern California hybridizers left off. Starting in 1970 with the introduction of PASATIEMPO, a deep purple near self, Joe has become the most prolific and innovate hybridizer in the history of the Pacific Coast irises. With over 120 introductions to date, and most of them the cream of the crop, how can we limit our recommendations to fit the space in this publication?

While some growers have reported difficulties establishing Ghio cultivars in their garden, they are being grown successfully in Australia, New Zealand, the British Isles, and in some of the most difficult areas of the United States, and in our survey of "favorite cultivars," 37 different Ghio introductions were named, far more than from any other breeder.

A few iris purists scoff at Joe's innovations, preferring the narrower, less fancy petals of the species. Almost everyone, however, places him in the forefront of the all-time list of PCI hybridizers, and we feel that no one would feel greatly disappointed with a random selection of the latest Ghio creations.

PASATIEMPO, the earliest of the Ghio introductions is still grown throughout California. Its ancestry traces back to the PCI lines of Sydney Mitchell and Jack Craig. Since this beginning, Joe has added germ plasm from plants he has selected in the wild, including some in the mountains above Santa Cruz, and from pollen collected from selected flowers of *Iris munzii* growing in the Sierras.

Among the favorite Ghio introductions growing in our garden are: CALIFIA, a small, compact grower with large, golden-yellow, lightly-ruffled flowers which was introduced in 1970. COUNCILMAN, (Ghio 76), a cream self, Mitchell Award winner in 1982, and once our favorite Pacifica, was replaced in favor by his 1979 introduction, LAS FLORES, with its creamy apricot standards and falls overlaid with violet. Now it is even more difficult to pick a single favorite, but IN THE MONEY, LAGUNA CREEK, PEANUT GALLERY, SANTA CRUZ BEACH, and UVAS, would all be close to the top. IN THE MONEY,

introduced in 1988, is the brightest golden yellow self imaginable, so bright that it defies photography. LAGUNA CREEK (Ghio 89), is a part *I. munzii* hybrid, a deep fluorescent, red-violet self with a wash of turquoise on the falls. In our garden it does not increase well, but the flowers are gorgeous. PEANUT GALLERY, a golden tan self with a turquoise flush on a small compact plant, which Joe introduced in 1986, is one of the better examples of this unique color which he has developed over the years. SANTA CRUZ BEACH, introduced in 1987, is a cream-orange color with a prominent dark red-brown spot on the falls, a striking flower and an excellent grower in our garden. UVAS, introduced in 1986, is another of his tan series which grows well in our garden. Many of these have ancestry tracing back to EMIGRANT, a brick-red-flowered plant from seed which Joe obtained from Hargrave in Australia.

Among the other Ghio introductions which have received favorable comments from more-difficult growing areas are: BIG MONEY ('84), BIG WHEEL, ('82 Mitchell Award, 1986), CITY HALL ('78. Mitchell Award, 1984), GONE NATIVE ('81) IDYLWILD ('88), LA SELVA ('78), LAS OLAS ('83), LOS CALIFORNIO ('80), LOS GATOS ('73. Mitchell Award, 1979), MISSION SANTA CRUZ ('82), MONTARA ('83), OVAL OFFICE ('82), PESCADERO ('80), REFUGIO ('86), RESTLESS NATIVE ('75. Mitchell Award, 1981), RIO DEL MAR ('79), ROARING CAMP ('84), SANTA RITA ('78. Mitchell Award, 1983), SHORT ORDER ('82), SIMPLY WILD ('80. Mitchell Award, 1987), SOQUEL COVE ('75. Mitchell Award, 1980), SPRING HAZE ('83), STROKE OF MIDNIGHT ('89), TUNITAS ('85), and WESTERN WORLD ('87).

Figuring that he knew more about them than anyone, we asked Joe to send us a list of his own five favorites from those he introduced. Here is his reply: "It is difficult to talk about your own introductions for publication, but, after much juggling of 'favorites', I settled on the following five: IDYLWILD ('88) A munzii hybrid of very broad and full form. Its very large ruffled blooms are basically white, washed and lined overall with true blue. IN THE MONEY ('88) Very floriferous true gold with somewhat deeper signal. So very smooth and bright that it lights up the garden from afar. NATIONAL ANTHEM ('90) Perfection in form with large, heavily substanced, semi flaring blooms that are carried on tall, strong, erect stalks. Rich purple shading to black in the center of the falls. SMALL TOWN ('87) Smaller, yet very perky blooms of henna with an electric blue blaze. Ruffly, and makes a great show specimen. SOLID CITIZEN ('87) We look at this as a Pacifica version of Mystique. Great broad form and very ruffled. Light blue standards with a 'Mystique flush', the falls are dark bluepurple. Easy to grow and floriferous". So there you have it, an unrealistically restricted number of recommendations from his large output of quality varieties, but straight from the breeder's mouth.

Ben Hager is hybridizing and selecting in his hot-summer garden in Stockton. Five of his selections were noted by contributors to our survey from Southern California to Oregon. The oldest of these, PACIFIC MOON ('74), has cream colored flowers with pale violet veining and has been used extensively by hybridizers for its wide petals. The others are 1988 introductions, CALI-

FANCY, a pale yellow with purple veining, NATIVE BLUSH, a pale apricot from Canyon Snow x Amiguita, PACIFIC DAZZLER, a bright yellow with red veining, and TIDY WHITE, a pure white with a yellow signal. All of these should do well in the warm climate regions.

Joe Gatty who gardens in Stockton in Ben Hager's neighborhood, introduced JOEY in 1978. This apricot to buff cultivar was reported as growing well in the central U.S. and new Zealand, as well as in California.

Vernon Wood's MIMSEY, a ruffled golden orange, was reported to grow well in Northern California. Colin Rigby's HONTA YO, introduced in 1985 was recommended for the central United States. Honta Yo has creamy petals, the falls being heavily veined with purple.

Two *I. Munzii*-derived cultivars, PACIFIC HIGH, introduced by Lois Belardi in 1987, and SIERRA DELL, introduced by us in 1988 were favorably mentioned in the survey. PACIFIC HIGH has cool white standards and blue falls with a thin darker blue border. It is growing well in our and other California gardens. SIERRA DELL, a blue self with thin darker blue veining on the falls, has been reported as growing well in Oregon, Washington, and Northern California gardens. Both of these cultivars have overcome the tendency of *I. munzii* lines to increase poorly.

Terry Aitken's PACIFIC FROST which he introduced in 1990, was recommended for the state of Washington. This cultivar was derived from Ghio seed of unknown origin, but from photographs which we have seen, appears to have *I. munzii* in its background. It is described as having a white flower with a bright blue blaze, and as surviving a freeze of 7 degrees F. PACIFIC RIM, introduced by Bennett Jones in 1990 was reported as seen growing well in the Terry Aitken garden in Washington.

Input for this article came through and from the SPCNI Bulletin Representatives: Jean Witt of Oregon, Duncan Eader of Southern California, and Bob Ward of Arkansas. Representative, Richard Kiyomoto of Connecticut reported that there still wasn't a reliable cultivar for his climate, but that they were trying. Additional acknowledgement and thanks to the following contributors to our survey: Ralph Conrad, Joe Daughtery, William Hawkinson, Charles Hopson, Bob Hubley, Richard Richards, and Marion Walker of Southern California; Joe Ghio, Ben Hager, Larry Moss, John Weiler, and Vernon Wood of Northern California; Carol Lankow of Washington; Duane Meek and Robert Schreiner of Oregon; Terry Murata of Maui; Dorothy Hujsak and Clarence Mahan of central and eastern U.S.; Dora Sparrow of New Zealand; Jo Tunney of Australia; and Maureen Foster and Mary Tubbs of the British Isles.

# Intermediate Irises A Personal Symposium

Bennett C. Jones (Oregon)

So fleeting is the fame of the hundreds of new irises claiming our attention each year when spring and the iris season roll around but that makes for the chase, the pursuit of those which in our judgment will survive or have survived. Fortunately, among those hundreds of introductions, not so many, in proportion, fall into the Intermediate Bearded classification thus the pursuit here is less frenzied but no less exciting. Having been a pursuer for many years and a known exponent of median irises does not qualify me, more than the next person, to stand in judgment, but what follows is a roll of intermediate irises I feel have held their own, stood their ground, and some that I think will as they become more widely grown.

RARE EDITION (Gatty '80) is one to judge the others by. With flowers of a bold plicata pattern, deep mulberry on white ground, it is an easy grower and Hike it for its excellent proportion, branching and eyecatching blossoms. HOT FUDGE (Hager '82) Another plicata I have admired over the years, this one having standards of deep cinnamon and ruffled falls of creamy yellow with the color of the standards repeated at their edges. Bright color contrast. Crowning Terry Aitken's spirited assault on Mystique as a parent, HELL CAT, '83, spent little time moving into wide acceptance. A neglecta with light blue standards and wide ruffled falls that are dark violet. One of a kind, a clump of it in the Sass garden was something to see. Two red IBs have caught my eye wherever I have come across them. RED ZINGER (Black '85) Flowers are bright burgandy red, very well formed and carried on slender well branched stems. Try this one for the show bench. Then there is WAMPUM, (Ensminger '83) Ruffled flowers are intense oxblood red with violet blazes surrounding red beards. Real color and form here. I first saw HONEY GLAZED (Niswonger '83) at the convention in Seattle in 1984. I have seen nothing since to take its place colorwise. Its ruffled standards are rich cream, more ruffled falls are amber topped with golden beards. Terrific in clump.

The nicest display of IBs I can recall seeing was in the Fulton garden at the Median Muster in Boston, 1989. Grown amid huge boulders, a fresh new lawn and interesting perennials, it was a display to remember. There, MAUI MOON-LIGHT (Aitken '87) put on quite a show. Pastel lemon yellow self, wonderful color, the flowers are lightly ruffled and laced and displayed on good stems with branches in the right places. Nearby was ASK ALMA (Lankow '84) putting on no less a show. This one described as being coral-orange, seems pink to me, one of the best pinks we have in IBs. A rampant grower, it clumps quickly, a rising star. LITTLE SNOW LEMON (Gaddie '84), so aptly named, is one to enjoy. A little smaller and daintier than most it has white standards over medium lemon yellow falls. Stems and branching are in good proportion, a

very nice iris. Another I found in Omaha last year which was pleasing most everyone was JOHN, (Ensminger '89). Different and unusual in color, its tailored flowers have standards of chocolate brown and falls of glowing straw yellow. Another one of which it may be said, "like no other." And that is true of OKLAHOMA BANDIT (Nichols '80). An easy growing IB producing masses of flowers on show stems. Of excellent form, the old gold flowers are washed wine red. Your best bet among the blends.

In conclusion, two blues, a couple of oranges and a brilliant yellow. Blue is the scarcest color in the spring garden. Never is there enough of it. BUBBLY BLUE (Aitken '86) The name says it all. It is blue, medium blue, and it is the most heavily ruffled IB I know. Shiny satin blue. Standing its ground SILENT STRINGS (Dyer '79) looks as good and I like it as much as I did when it first came into the garden years ago. Of excellent proportion, notable for branching and the form of its light blue flowers. White beards are tipped yellow. Orange is the color so much in fashion, and the race is on for more of it. OBLIGATO (Stahly '88) is the leader as it performs here. Light to medium orange with a flush of coral on the falls. Tangerine beards are tipped white. Though I have seen it growing only in Ben's garden, LIGHTEN UP (Hager '90) is well named. Bright orange, it is, and first rate for branching and form. Startling, are the beards. And, the brightest yellow, NEW KID (Shoop '87) An intensely brilliant yellow, not golden yellow, nearer to lemon yellow and it shines. Orange beards. Tailored flowers on good stalks.

Among the most useful of bearded irises, these are a few well worth the space in anyone's garden. Intermediate in height, they fit well in the perennial border. They grow like weeds and they extend the season. Well, not exactly, they bloom before the talls, the talls extend the season.

# **Outstanding Intermediates**

Hooker Nichols (Oklahoma)

No article about intermediate bearded irises can be written without the mentioning of the one intermediate bearded iris that, I believe, sets the standards for present and future intermediate bearded introductions. RARE EDITION (Gatty '80) appears to have been sculpted by the gods. A perfectly formed mulberry on white plicata that can never go unnoticed in the garden or on the show bench. AZ AP (Ensminger '80) certainly is well known and respected in the intermediate class. Neatly formed flowers are a lovely shade of cobalt blue sporting gentian-blue beards. A single rhizome will produce a nice clump in one year's time.

HELLCAT (Aitken '83) seems to glow in the garden from within itself. A ruffled blue-purple bitone that beckons the visitors to take a closer look. The stalks are well held above the clean, blue-green foliage. HONEY GLAZED (Niswonger '83) has been a personal favorite since I first saw it before introduction in Wichita, Kansas. An added bonus point for this fine iris is that it

is a reliable rebloomer. Ruffled cream-amber standards are above the amber falls with gold beards.

ASK ALMA (C. Lankow '87) struts herself in the spring garden. I first saw this fine iris at the Phoenix convention. Lovely coral flowers with tangerine beards. Well branched and quite a lovely lady. HOT FUDGE (Hager '83) has to be one of the most beautiful yellow and dark brown plicatas in the spring garden. This one has 5 to 6 buds and exhibition stalks. PINK KITTEN (V. Wood '77), though one of the oldest IBs in my garden, still puts on a fine performance each year. The flowers are not large, but they are a nice shade of blue pink with deeper veining. Tangerine beards make the final classic touch to this fine iris.

RASPBERRY BLUSH (Hamblen '76), another oldie, but an enchantingly beautiful iris to grow. The raspberry pink flowers have much darker solid falls spots. Tangerine beards and personality abound in this beauty. PEACHY FACE (B. Jones '76) doesn't have the beautiful form that most people admire, but the color of the flowers makes up for any known faults. A smooth, clean peach-white self with large peach fall spots and tangerine beards. This one blooms, and blooms, and blooms throughout the season.

OKLAHOMA BANDIT (H. Nichols '80) is a blooming wonder each spring with its honey-gold blended flowers washed claret in the standards and falls. The touch of ruffling adds zip to this color break in the IB class. RED ZINGER (P. Black '85) is one of my favorite irises each spring. A three year clump in full bloom was most spectacular last spring when the rays of the setting sun illuminated its flowers. A deep burgundy wine bitone with a darker fall spot produces stalks which are an exhibitor's delight.

SILENT STRINGS (P. Dyer '79) displays it's medium blue flowers on fine stalks. This one gives a long season of bloom each year. LITTLE SNOW LEMON (G. Gaddie '84) certainly make one notice that it is a prolific grower and bloomer. A white self with bright lemon spots on the falls. AVANELLE (W. E. Jones '77) nears perfection in form with off white flowers having yellow beards. Another beauty that commands attention on the show bench as well as in the garden. BEDTIME STORY (J. Ritchie '82) gives the gardener stalks of blue-violet flowers with deeper spots. One that should be in everyone's garden. HARLOW GOLD (P. Black '82) just whistles with clean yellow flowers borne on fine stalks. A beautiful iris in every respect.

VAMP (Gatty '72) can be found in every garden in our area whose owner appreciates fine median irises. Outstanding flowers have slightly ruffled red-purple flowers with darker colored spots. LOGO (Keppel '86) steals the scene with violet on salmon ground plicata flowers with tangerine beards. Show stalks abound with this variety! WAMPUM (Ensminger '83) adds to my list of good dark toned flowers having good oxblood colored flowers with a slightly darker violet blaze on the falls.

BABY BLUE MARINE (Denney '87) never fails to give the gardener a fantastic show in the garden. A self of marine blue with branched stlks which display the flowers to their fullest exhibition. BLUEBIRD IN FLIGHT

(Niswonger '88) makes one take notice with its tri-colored flowers of red, white, and blue. The open standards on this one really allow one to see all three colors. BROADWAY BABY (Gatty '90) makes the garden visitor simply stop in his or her tracks. The ruffled bronze-tan standards and the broad ruffled white falls banded oxblood red certainly make a stunning creation.

BUBBLY BLUE (Aitken '86) lets one know that spring has finally arrived with its ruffled sky blue flowers which are the breath of spring in themselve. CALIFORNIA STYLE (B. Jones '90) made a command performance at the Omaha convention. Ruffled white standards with bright orange falls edged white. The tangerine beards add a nice touch to this fine iris. CANDY FLOSS (Keppel '90) is even prettier in the garden than in its slide picture I saw last year. Ruffled peach pink standards and white falls sanded pink-peach with tangerine beards make this iris good enough to eat.

JOHN (Ensminger '90) most certainly is different. Chocolate brown standards and yellow falls. Bright and showy. As pretty here in Oklahoma this spring as it was in Lincoln, Nebraska, last year. LOVE'S TUNE (Ensminger '86) bloomed this year on a one year clump with six bloom stalks and 8 increases remaining. Ice blue-white ruffled flowers with blue beards. Lovely stalks and many buds. MISS RIGHT (Wright '86) still ranks as my favorite introduction from this hybridizer. Ruffled and fine-formed creamy yellow and lemon flowers are neat and clean. An outstanding performer.

MORNING SHOW (Ensminger '88) cannot go unnoticed in the garden because of its great performance. A smooth red self with fine form and great branching. Watch out when the sun's rays hit this one! OBLIGATO (Stahly '88) from Hal Stahly is a fine iris from Marmalade Skies. A medium orange-coral blend that is a refreshing sight in the garden. THEDA CLARK (H. Nichols '88) displays its violet flowers on fine stalks. Another fine exhibition and show bench iris in this class. SUNSHINE BOY (F. Foster '86) was first seen during the San Jose convention. Two plants produced over 200 increases on a two year clump! Neat, ruffled lemon standards over white falls having lemon hafts. Certainly one of the finest irises in this class. These are the cream of the crop as seen in my home garden and in various gardens I visited last year and this year thus far. This particular class of irises is making tremendous progress and some lovely near color combinations are being grown for future release over all parts of the country.

# Double the Fun—Hybridizing Teams

One of the major complaints of most irisarians is the fact that they have too little space to grow all the cultivars they want. This is compounded when the grower turns into a "hybridizer." To grow enough seedlings to have the opportunity to produce something worthy of introduction requires much space, much time, and careful evaluation.

Anyone who begins to hybridize soon realizes that the garden is filled with lovely flowers that aren't quite good enough to introduce but are too pretty to discard. Soon, the problem of too little space is of paramount importance. We have all heard of the spouse who continues to take over the lawn for more iris space or of the one who is able to convince his or her partner that it is not necessary to grow vegetables any longer. That results in the vegetable garden's becoming an iris garden.

If this problem exists for one iris grower in a family, consider how the problems would be multiplied if both the spouses are hybridizers. This doesn't happen often, but in The American Iris Society, we do have some couples who must share the garden space. Imagine the problems that could arise when one considers his or her seedling to be great, but the partner recommends that it be discarded. Who gets to make which cross? Imagine going into the garden to make a well-planned cross only to discover that your mate has already taken all the pollen from the flower you planned to use—or perhaps every flower has been crossed already.

In an attempt to find out what it is really like to live in such a situation, four hybridizing couples were asked to tell about their introduction to irises and to tell a little about how the work load is shared. Each couple could tell whatever they wanted, but maybe we still don't know about the conflicts that arise.

The four couples—Tony and Dorothy Willott of Ohio, Roger and Lynda Miller of Indiana, Duane and Joyce Meek of Oregon, and Bob and Mary Dunn of California all sell irises commercially. The Willotts and the Millers grow and hybridize in the median class, while the Meeks and the Dunns are tall bearded specialists. The Millers also work with the talls and Mary Dunn is noted for her Louisianas. Duane Meek has introduced some border bearded irises, and the Willotts are introducing their first tall bearded variety. All eight are definitely iris enthusiasts, and their stories follow.

# **Our Addiction to Irises**

Tony and Dorothy Willott (Ohio)

When Dorothy made her first iris crosses in 1950, 18 years before the first Willott iris introduction, she never expected to be part of a team that would introduce over 190 varieties.

Dorothy's mother, Virginia McClintock, had inherited the love of flowers from her mother and the McClintock home was always surrounded by blooms of some kind. Following the Depression and World War II, Virginia and Jim McClintock began an extensive iris collection and joined the American Iris Society. Virginia also joined a robin of Region Six members and one of Walter Welch's dwarf iris robins. She wanted to attend a regional meeting in 1950 so she could meet some of her pen pals, but her husband had to work weekends at that time. Virginia asked daughter Dorothy to accompany her on the train from Cleveland to Columbus, Ohio.

During the Saturday garden tour, Dorothy noticed that an Ohio State University student was taking something from the iris blooms. Overcome with curiosity, she got up enough nerve to ask what he was doing. He explained that he had been given permission to collect pollen to take to his own iris planting and make crosses. This, then, required a brief explanation of how to cross irises. On this tour, she also saw her first pink irises which included SPINDRIFT, PINK CAMEO and CHERIE. Armed with new knowledge and enthusiasm, Dorothy went home and made a number of crosses between her parents' irises and ordered the first irises of her own. Some of the crosses that took and subsequently germinated were OLA KALA X MING YELLOW, OR-LOFF X PRINCE OF ORANGE, JUNALUSKA X AT DAWNING, and crosses involving CRYSTAL BEAUTY and LADY MOHR. Most prolific was the OLA KALA cross with many of the seedlings blooming in 1952 in a wide array of yellows and golds, but lacking in form. Dorothy's fiance, Tony Willott, couldn't bear to see these thrown out, and he planted them along the foundation of his mother's house where they performed quite well.

Tony and Dorothy were married in August, 1952 and continued to make a few crosses, mostly tall bearded, but didn't take it seriously at that time. After building a new home on 1.2 acres in 1958, they were able to grow more irises, including more seedlings. Also, they started attending Dwarf Iris Society meetings in Indiana and added miniature and standard dwarfs to their collection. The big push into dwarf and median hybridizing came about in 1962. When they were touring the Walter Welch garden in Middlebury, Indiana, they saw dwarf iris seedlings that had been plowed under the previous year and had come up and were blooming. Some were quite nice and better than many on the market. Walter Welch gave the Willotts permission to rescue any of these they liked. Twenty-six of the seedlings were taken home and planted in a new rock garden made just for them. The following spring, 18 of these seedlings bloomed and several crosses were made. The cross seedlings WX-23 X WX-25 bloomed in 1965, including one that was to be named LEMON SPOT (SDB), the first Willott registration, introduced in 1968 by Moldovan Gardens. It won an AM in 1974.

The Willotts were also aided and encouraged in their early dwarf hybridizing efforts by Bonnie Dunbar and Earl Roberts who provided plants to be used as parents, as well as lending expertise and knowledge. A most fortuitous cross was that of Earl Roberts' EYE SHADOW X LEMON SPOT. From

this cross came 1971 SDB introductions CAROUSEL PRINCE, CAROUSEL PRINCESS and CAROUSEL BELLE. Also from this cross were 1972 MDB introduction ROYAL BEE and SDBs RASPBERRY HALO (73) and CHAPEL HILL (76). CAROUSEL PRINCESS has been used extensively by the Willotts, not only in plicata crosses, but in bitones and bicolors. It is a grandparent of ALPINE LAKE (81) (MDB) which won the Caparne-Welch Medal in 1989. On the other side of ALPINE LAKE is one of 19 MDB seedlings given to the Willotts by Wilma Greenlee in 1975. The most important parent in Willott MDB, SDB and IB lines has been Bee Warburton's BLUEBERRY MUFFINS (63) (SDB). SDB seedlings from her SKY AND SNOW line, and her DELICATE AIR (62) and LACED LEMONADE (70) have also made substantial contributions.

One of the Willott objectives has been to bring new blood into the SDBs by crossing pumilas with recent TBs. A cross of pumila INCA STAR X HAPPY HALO (TB) resulted in MISTER ROBERTS which won an AM in 1984. Important in their pink SDB line has been seedling 78-126, a cross of TB CHERISHED X Greenlee white pumila GX-9. A number of Willott MDBs have won awards. PUSSYTOES (82), a cross of SDB WILMA GREENLEE (Briscoe 75) X Greenlee GX-9, won the Caparne-Welch Medal in 1990. Other AM winners are GOLD CANARY, TOYLAND and SNOWY RIVER. Some recent introductions that they are especially happy with are MDB BUCKEYE BABY (86); SDBs PASTEL DELIGHT (86), LIME MIST (88), BARNEY'S DELIGHT (90), OH KATZ (90); IB NORDIC CRYSTAL (87); and BB BROWNBERRY (87).

In 1991 the Willotts will introduce their first TB. After retiring from the U.S. Department of Defense in 1987, Tony became a Volunteer Master Gardener of the Ohio State Agricultural Extension Service. Both he and Dorothy will present iris programs to the 1991 Master Gardener Conference to be held in Detroit, Michigan, in September. The conference chairman asked if an iris could be named in honor of the conference. The Willotts didn't think a dwarf iris would be appreciated by this group, so selected an apricot TB with good growth habits to register as MASTER GARDENER. Also new for the Willotts will be the introduction of two Siberian irises. One is FAIRY FINGERS from SIGNA seed of I. sanguinea 'Snow Queen,' a very small white flower on 18 inch stems. The other is a volunteer seedling, which is iridescent medium violet-blue with deepr hafts and very round petals, named MYSTIC LAGOON.

In the fall of 1988, the Willotts were asked to donate irises to the "Peace Garden" being established on the grounds of the City of Cleveland Greenhouse. They not only donated hundreds of irises, but continue to help maintain the planting, thus are recognized as volunteers for the City of Cleveland. They are volunteers for the Garden Center of Greater Cleveland, to which they have also donated irises. In 1990 they donated and planted irises in a special bed at Falconskeape, a non-profit horticultural park in Medina, Ohio. Donations of irises also went to the Betty Ford Alpine Garden in Vail, Colorado.

The Willotts frequently give programs to iris societies and garden clubs and in 1990 Tony was asked to present an iris program several times during the Greater Cleveland Home and Flower Show. These presentations were well

received and in 1991 both Tony and Dorothy will participate. Thousands of people attend this show every year, and hopefully, many will hear about irises. In January 1991, they presented a program, "Using Irises in the Landscape," as part of an Extension Service Perennial School for commercial landscapers, garden centers and grounds maintenance professionals. By showing the professionals how various kinds of irises can be used, it is hoped more varied and better irises will be made available to the public.

Tony and Dorothy don't want to be a commercial garden, but sell their own introductions to make sure they get distributed. They do all garden work themselves and have trouble keeping up the fight against weeds and iris borers. Tony does more of the physical work. Dorothy does more record-keeping and labeling, and publishes the price list. They look over new seedlings together and decide which ones to keep for further hybridizing and/or possible introduction. Dorothy then numbers each seedling, records its description and photographs it. Tony makes most of the actual pollinations, but they discuss many of these beforehand. Selections for introduction can bring some disagreements, but eventually are determined and are jointly registered and introduced. This is truly a joint venture with both Tony and Dorothy working as partners, not competitors.

# **Hybridizing History of the Meeks**

Joyce Meek (Oregon)

When we purchased our home in Concord, California, it had been a rental for some time. Consequently, the yard was a disaster. We had nothing but walnut trees and weeds. I started landscaping with an occasional bag of peat moss and plants purchased when the budget allowed. They usually cost from 29 to 79¢. Our first year in residence, we had a lawn in front and a vegetable garden in the back. I was kept busy watering, weeding, and keeping our five children, the neighbor children, and the meter reader off the new lawn and out of the vegetable garden. Our daughter Candy played with a neighbor girl whose mother was semi-invalid. From time to time, Candy would come home with a sack of very dry iris rhizomes and a message from Mrs. Jones that they should be planted right away since they had already been out of the ground too long. I really took the message literally, and I must admit that there were times when I cursed to myself as I planted them. In the spring of 1960, an iris bloomed for me, then another and another. I'd never seen anything like them, and I was hooked for life.

I didn't meet Ginger Jones for months, but I was invited to her garden, and I was totally captivated by the charm, trust, and love for fellow man of this iris lady. Her garden was like a dream come true, and we began to enjoy irises together, including treks to many other gardens. This one-in-a-million irisarian nurtured my iris interest and helped to continue my love for the iris.

In the early 1960's, I started going to Mt. Diablo Iris Society meetings on occasion. Later, I joined and then became a member of AIS in 1962 or 1963. At

the club meetings, I met many more wonderful people, including Charlie and Florence Barnes. They were like parents to me, and two of my children (Candy and Duane) and I helped them label irises from 1964 to 1968. These two of my children shared my love for irises, and they even had their own raised beds. Charlie asked me to order irises for him, and in the process I began a correspondence with Opal Brown and Melba Hamblen that culminated in wonderful friendships.

At least once each year, we made a trip to Duane's family home in Ellensburg, Washington. These trips soon turned into visits to irisarians of the area such as Luella Noyd and Gordon Plough. Iris friendships always make the iris growing that much more fun, and by this time I was hooked on the iris people as well as the irises.

In 1965, I ordered three new irises for my hybridizing goals. They were Plough's MILESTONE, Gibson's GAY TRACERY, and Austin's SPOONED BLAZE. In 1966, I made my first crosses. The one I'd planned for was Gay Tracery X Milestone. I made a total of 12 crosses, and then I dreamed a lot.

The Region 14 spring meeting in 1967 was my first. I helped in the Barnes garden. Even though the rain came and came and the bloom wasn't there, I came further under the spell of the irises because I met more of those wonderful iris people.

These first paragraphs have had little mention of Duane, Sr., but that is no accident. At that time, his only interest in irises was a rather tolerant pride (at bloom time) in my little hobby. In 1968, the convention of AIS was held in Berkeley. The Carl Smiths from Idaho were to be our house guests, and I had cooked plenty of food and placed it in the freezer so that I could entertain guests, feed my family, and still attend the convention. I was asked to help in the Corlew garden, and it was there that I met Tom Brown. He introduced me to Opal, and by this time, I was walking on air. I think the excitement was contagious because I had been able to convince the Barnses and Duane to attend the closing banquet. We were seated at the table with George Shoop and Bennett Jones, and Duane developed an instant friendship with them. The next day, he went to the Mt. Diablo show to pick up something for me and ended up helping to tear down the show and making more iris friends. During this time, my seedlings were starting to bloom and some were quite nice. I believe that this combination of individual happenings, as well as discovering that many hybridizers and hobbyists were men, all contributed to the cause of Duane's succumbing to the (near fatal) iris virus.

From that day on, Duane read my bulletins and registration books and joined several area clubs. We attended every local and regional function and I felt as if I were caught in a giant whirlwind. I went back to work full time, and I still had three children at home. For the first five years, I worked graveyard. Most meetings were on Friday night, so we'd hurry home so I could change clothes and be at work by 11:25 p.m. Many meetings had slide programs, and when the lights came on I would find I'd been sleeping on the shoulder of a stranger. Many of them probably thought I had a drinking problem. Then there were the Saturday functions. I would get off work, rush home, and get ready to

go. I usually fell asleep in the car or at the function. I had determined when I returned to work that my family came first, my job second, and my irises last. With this in mind, I tried to cut down on my iris garden. If I discarded one, Duane planted two or three. I soon began to hate to see my July 3 birthday roll around because it meant I would spend the 4th digging irises.

Duane is a workaholic; I'm not. He continued to expand our iris garden and our front and back lawn disappeared—so did my good clothesline. Nothing was sacred. With his enthusiasm, we visited gardens everywhere. If I had to work, Duane went without me. He went to regional functions, gardens, local events, and as a result, he knows more people than I do. All these people became like family because iris people are special.

In 1972 Gordon Plough introduced my iris called MONTEGO BAY. In 1973 AMAPOLA and Duane's SUNDAY SAGE were introduced, followed by MAGIC CANDLE, SWEETHEART WALTZ, and others. Duane now had so many seed-lings that we were advised to go commercial. I made from 6 to 20 crosses each year while Duane made many, many more, but I discovered and selected many of his introductions. So you can see why I have a special pride in those introductions such as CHAPEL BELLS, CHERRY SMOKE, CUDDLES, DATE BAIT, DESERT ECHO, and WILD CARD.

My own favorite introductions are CANDACE, DEANNA DARCY, ILLA JEAN, JANIE MEEK, MAGIC CANDLE, MAKIN' MUSIC, and P. T. BARNUM. My favorites of Duane's are BRIDGET'S CHOICE, CARVED CRYSTAL, CHAPEL BELLS, CHERRY SMOKE, DATE BAIT, DANGER HOUR, DESERT ECHO, GRAND OLD OPRY, HARLEM HUSSY, LEMON LYRIC, LINGERING LOVE, SHANIKO, and WILD CARD. I cannot pick just one favorite from among our introductions.

I've received several exhibition certificates and five or six HMs. Duane has quite a few exhibition certificates, 18 HMs, 1 AM, and CHERRY SMOKE was runner up for an AM each year from 1982 through 1985. He also won three region 14 cups for LEMON LYRIC, DESERT ECHO, and CHAPEL BELLS. I'm very proud of his instincts and achievements, and I enjoy his victories more than I would if they were my own. I'm perfectly content to play second fiddle, and I'm glad that my hobby has become our hobby.

# The Millers

Lynda Miller (Indiana)

When he was about 14 years old, Roger went to work for Emma Cook, the widow of noted hybridizer Paul Cook. She paid him for his work with irises, so he liked them even then or he would never have been satisfied with such an arrangement. When we had dated only three weeks, I went with him to pick up an iris order from Steve Moldovan, so that was my first involvement with the irises that would become part of our lives.

I married Roger in 1970. He had made several crosses in years before our marriage, and in the first spring, he showed me how to make the crosses. That's when the battle began because I had better luck than he did and got more seeds per pod. He had me make the crosses for him since I could do them in the morning while he was at work. I also began making my own crosses but we never really kept them separate. For several years, Roger made no crosses, but he has started making a few again.

In the beginning we introduced jointly, but recently the introductions have been in my name. It was Roger who decided this was a good idea. I do all the PR work for the garden, and I have, as he says, taken the irises away from him. So, he hybridizes daylilies. Actually, I make the crosses and we both harvest the seeds. Roger soaks the seeds then plants them in seed trays. We make sure they are kept watered until it is time to field plant them. This is a job that I do.

The field-planted seedlings get very little care because of the work involved with shipping and transplanting plus the work that is required by the nursery. If they get weeded, Roger is probably the one who does it.

We each pick out and select seedlings, but I usually make the final decision on which ones will be kept, then I dig them out. Usually, Roger and I plant them together. I also make the decision on which iris will be introduced and when. I make up the catalog and handle all advertising, the paper work on the orders, and I do almost all the digging and packing on the orders. When it comes to digging and transplanting, we usually do the work together, but Roger does all the weeding and spraying—the grunt work as he calls it.

Of the introductions we did jointly, GOLDEN EYELET, DARK VADER, and AZTEC TREASURE are my favorites. Of my own, CLASSY BABE and one of the new ones called CAN'T ELOPE are my favorites. CAN'T ELOPE is the color of a very ripe cantaloupe with many ruffles. I haven't seen another one that color. PARTY QUEEN, which I named for myself, is also a favorite.

I do not think introducing the irises separately is really the right answer because the one planting the seedlings tends to give their own seedlings the prime garden areas, at least Roger thought I always did that. Even though I do most of the crossing and selecting, personally I feel the introductions should be joint if both parties contribute to the final product. Planting and weeding is part of the final product. So, our irises are really all Roger and Lynda Miller introductions.

Jointly, we have won 7 HMs and 2 AMs. I have won 8 HMs, and 1991 is the first year that any of my introductions have been eligible for the AM award.

# The Dunns

Mary Dunn (California)

Bob was career military until he had to retire, and I worked for Capitol Nursery. Plants have always been a part of my life, and shrubs and conifers were my favorites. I also collected the exotic greenhouse plants. When we got

our house, things started to happen, and we planted and planted, and we are still planting! Bob's sister gave us an iris called EASTER BONNET, and as we watched its performance change from day to day we had so much fun that we suddenly had something new to work with. Capitol Nursery ran a special on irises and we bought six. I don't remember the price, and I don't remember some of the names, but we did get GREEN PASTURES, SABLE NIGHT, and ZANTHA. Everyone on the block had to come to see our "green" iris.

The next season we were off to many flower shows. I saw so many beauties and asked myself why I couldn't grow them. As you can see, a budding irisarian was what I had become. Then we saw the Lloyd Austin aril display and that was a sight to behold. The room was just full of aril irises, so we were off to Placerville to see the garden. These were so beautiful, but I soon learned that they wouldn't grow well in our garden because it was too wet.

The tall bearded irises seemed to be the best choice for us, so we were off to the garden of local grower Carl Quadros. We went at least twice each week with pencil and pad in hand and camera ready. Bob had started to hybridize at that time. I still hadn't gotten into it and just watched him and his dumb pods. Some of those pods ended up in the house since I liked to make arrangements then, and they were perfect for some of my ideas.

When we were at Carl's, we met Collie and Lillian Terrell, and as time went by, we went to Wasco to visit their garden. We met Joe Ghio there and went to Neva Sexton's. It hit me there in Neva's garden that I had to have the new MOON RIVER, and that was the beginning of my breeding program. With only a quarter of an acre, we do not have room, but I kept trying, and I think we have had some nice things come from a small garden.

Our best planned cross was fun. As I was coming home from judging a show, I came up with this great cross of Gay Parasol X Mystique. Upon arrival at home, I jumped from the car, ran to the back garden to make the cross and discovered that the hybridizer who stayed home had already made the cross and had three pods. That was MY cross, and he had already made it! That is how GAY MYSTIQUE became Bob's introduction instead of mine. I still think it is mine since I also made the cross on the same stem, but "you know who" put all the seeds together.

I do not allow Bob to go near my blooming Louisianas. I hybridize those. I became interested when the Carnahan sisters gave me some to grow. They were so great that I would order tall bearded irises from Melrose Gardens for Bob and ask them to send Louisiana irises for me as the extras, and they sent them! As bloom seasons came, I decided I could make some nicer Louisianas, so I crossed two of my favorite ones and the rest is history. I've won one Mary Swords Debaillion Award, and I just keep making crosses.

We also work with the Japanese irises since Jonnye Rich got us started on those. So far, the best seedlings are Bob's, but I'm trying very hard to close in on him. We have not introduced any in this class, but who knows what will happen.

We both select the tall bearded irises that will be introduced, and I do all the Louisiana selecting myself since I don't let him near them. With our small garden, we must dig and replant each year on the tall bearded and every two years on the beardless varieties. We do all the work ourselves, so we are always bent over in the garden, and we enjoy every minute of it.

Together we have 71 awards and 10 foreign awards. We have 7 AMs and the Debaillion Award. We do all the garden work together, usually according to a timetable. When the awards come along, it doesn't matter which one of us wins, we are both pleased.

Several years ago, we began selling commercially from our back yard. We call our garden M.A.D. which really just means Mary and Dunn. We definitely have come a long way from those purchases from Capitol Nursery. Like everyone else who grows irises, we have our personal favorites. Probably the thing we both look for when evaluating our seedlings is branching and bud count. We want them to bloom as long as possible, so we hope that good branching has become our trademark.

# Judges' Handbook Revision Pages Ready

Several changes in the Official Handbook for Judges are included in the revised pages which were recently completed. Since it is a requirement that all AIS Judges own a copy of the latest Handbook for Judges, copies of these revised pages have been mailed to all AIS Judges who were listed as approved as of January 1, 1991.

At the time the decision to make the revisions was approved by the AIS Board of Directors, it was voted to send copies of these revisions to all owners of the Handbook for Judges. Anyone who owns a copy of the most recent Handbook for Judges and has not received a copy of the revised pages should write to C.J. Lack, 718 West 67th Street, Tulsa, OK 74132 and request the revisions.

There is no charge for these new pages. They should be placed in the Handbook and the pages they replace should be removed.

# Choosing Intermediates for Your Garden

Dorothy A. Willott (Ohio)

Intermediate Bearded irises are fine subjects for the perennial border as well as in front of tall bearded irises in strictly iris beds. Intermediates fill the gap in blooming time between dwarfs and tall beardeds. Most modern intermediates are, in fact, the result of crosses between standard dwarfs (tall bearded irises X I. pumila) and tall beardeds. This heritage also makes intermediates (IBs) hardy and easy to grow in most parts of the country.

The height range for IBs is from 16 inches to, but not including, 28 inches, with optimum height between 20 and 25 inches. A good IB will have two short branches and 4 to 6 blooms per stalk. Blooms should be in proportion to the height of the stalk and average 3.5 to 5 inches across. Intermediate plants make nice clumps of color but are not as dense in habit as their dwarf parents. Colors and forms imitate the tall bearded parents with some unusual variations, such as spots, coming from the dwarf side.

One of the best ways to select good intermediates for the garden is to look at those varieties that have won AIS awards. The top award winners are usually those that have performed well in many diverse climates. IBs are eligible for the Honorable Mention award two years after introduction and are eligible for the Award of Merit the second year after receiving an Honorable Mention. The top award for thr Intermediate class is the Hans and Jacob Sass Medal which can be won two years after the Award of Merit. Thus, the medal winner must have been grown in gardens and evaluated by judges for at least six years. Theoretically, IBs are eligible for Dykes Medal, the highest award for any type of iris, but no intermediate has won this medal in the United States. Following are comments about some of the recent award winners.

#### RECENT HANS AND JACOB SASS MEDAL WINNERS

- 1986—RARE EDITION (Joe Gatty 80) is widely flared and ruffled. The clean white ground is heavily marked deep royal purple on the standards but narrowly edged on the fall. A deep violet line extends through the falls from the ends of the cream tipped violet beards. 24 in. AM 84
- 1987—AZ AP (Allan Ensminger 80) is a ruffled pale, steely-blue self with distinctive medium blue beards. 22 in. AM 84
- 1988—OKLAHOMA BANDIT (Hooker Nichols 80) has unusual coloring. Ruffled tan standards are flushed light violet at the base and up the midrib. The tan falls are overlaid with bright red-brown and beards are a blend of orange and violet, giving a bronzy appearance. 22 in. AM 84
- 1989—HONEY GLAZED (Dave Niswonger 83) has cream standards veined honey-gold. Falls are glowing deep honey with matching beards. 24 in. AM 87

1990—HELLCAT (Terry Aitken 84), is an ideally formed neglecta with light violet-blue standards flushed deeper at the base. Round falls are velvety deep blue-violet with matching beards. 24 in. AM 87

#### RECENT AWARD OF MERIT WINNERS

- 1986—BOLD PRINT (Joe Gatty 82) has crisp blue-violet markings around edges of white standards and falls. Styles and beards are light violet-blue. 22 in. HM 84
  - BEDTIME STORY (Jayne Ritchie 82) is a ruffled light violet-blue with deeper violet-blue spots around blue-tinged cream beards. 22 in. HM 84
  - RASPBERRY ROSE (Melba Hamblen 82) has slightly laced edges on blue-toned medium pink standards. Falls are the same color overlaid raspberry around muted orange beards. 24 in. HM 84
- 1987—BUTTER PECAN (Ben Hager 83) is an exceptionally floriferous and bright plicata. Ruffled gold standards are washed and veined honey brown. Broad cream to yellow falls are heavily peppered red-brown. Beards are an orange-brown blend. 22 in. HM 85
- 1988—HOT FUDGE (Ben Hager 82), a sister to Butter Pecan, is also ruffled and has cream to yellow base, but there the resemblance ends. The standards are heavily marked deep wine. Falls have a solid border and a few pepper marks of deep wine. Beards are medium violet. 23 in. HM 85
  - LITTLE SNOW LEMON (Gene Gaddie 84) is at the small end of the intermediate range. Creamy white standards are flushed full yellow at the base and midrib. Falls and beards are full orange-yellow with a narrow white rim. 20 in. HM
  - HARLOW GOLD (Paul Black 82) is a bright, multi-hued yellow. Standards are medium yellow; falls are lighter in the center, deeper in the hafts and on the edges; beards are full orange-yellow. 25.5 in. HM 85
- 1989—RED ZINGER (Paul Black 85), a fluted wine red with a little more brown than purple influence, the falls are washed with near black. Beards are striking dark orange. 26 in. HM 87
  - ALICE IN WONDERLAND (Bill Maryott 83) is a yellow bitone. Crisp light yellow standards contrast with bright medium yellow falls and yellow-orange beards. 17 in. HM 85
  - WAMPUM (Allan Ensminger 83) is laced all around, even on the style arms. It is a full red violet with a violet blaze in the center of the falls. Beards are a blend of bronze and red-violet. Standards are firmly upright and falls are horizontal. 22 in. HM 85
- 1990—LOGO (Keith Keppel 86) is a variety you either love or hate. Standards have irregular splashes of red-violet on the buff-apricot base. The falls are pinkish yellow with the standard color in the hafts and the lower half is embossed with a red-violet pattern. Beards are deep red-orange. 18 in. HM 88

SUNSHINE BOY (Frank Foster 86) has nicely formed and ruffled blooms although they are a little large for the plant size. Cream standards are darker at the base. Creamy white falls sport full orange-yellow halo-spots and beards. It is vigorous and floriferous. 25 in. HM 88

GOLDEN MUFFIN (Dave Niswonger 86) has pale yellow standards, light yellow styles and honey-brown falls; beards are dark yellow. Petal edges are serrated. 24 in. HM 88

# SOME HONORABLE MENTION WINNERS ELIGIBLE FOR THE AWARD OF MERIT

- 1986—CARACAL (A. & D. Willott 81) has ruffled old gold standards and styles. Falls have white centers edged old gold which are peppered light violet in the centers and brown in the haft and on the edges. Beards are a blend of gold and violet. 22 in.
  - PAINTED HILLS (Cleo Palmer 83) is a very ruffled taupe self with large red-brown spots and bronze beards on broad horizontal falls. 24 in.
- 1987—WORK OF ART (Cleo Palmer 83) is a laced and ruffled cream self with tan lines in the hafts. Beards are cream, becoming yellow in the throat. 24 in.
  - SUNNY HONEY (Geoge Shoop 85) sports a brilliant coral-red beard (a Shoop trademark) on a lightly ruffled apricot self. 16 in.
  - BLUE ICING (Bee Warburton 83) looks very delicate with light blue bordering ruffled white petals. Styles are light blue and beards are white. 25 in.
- 1988—DUSTY RHODES (A. & D. Willott 86) combines ruffled apricot standards and styles with flaring rosy red falls. Beards are orange-red. Unusual. 21 in.
  - NIGHT SHIFT (Terry Aitken 86) is a smooth deep purple self including the beards and is ruffled all around. 24 in.
- 1989—APRICOT SILK (A. & D. Willott 87) is a showy, ruffled apricot self with orange-red beards on horizontal falls. 22 in.

NORDIC CRYSTAL (A. & D. Willott 87) has attractive pale blue ruffles in blocky form with a few green lines around light blue beards. 23 in. ASK ALMA (Carol Lankow 87) is clear, bright pink, lightly ruffled with fine form and set off by coral beards. An excellent variety. 21 in.

MAUI MOONLIGHT (Terry Aitken 87) is a pale yellow self with light yellow beards and some ruffling. Stem is nicely branched. 23 in.

Another guide to selecting intermediates that do well throughout the country is the Median Iris Society Symposium. Members vote for their favorite irises in each median class. For intermediates, the top 25 varieties are published. For the past three years the same four varieties have been in the top four. RARE EDITION has led the poll in 1989 and 1990 followed by AZ AP, HELLCAT and HONEY GLAZED. The first year MAUI MOONLIGHT and ASK ALMA appeared on the ballot in 1990, they jumped to 5th and 6th place respectively.

Most of the recent Sass Medal and Award of Merit winners attained rankings in the top 25 varieties in the symposium in 1989 and 1990. Other favorites include previous Sass Medal winners; SILENT STRINGS (Perry Dyer 79), PEACHY FACE (Bennett Jones 76), PINK KITTEN (Vernon Wood 77), RASPBERRY BLUSH (Melba Hamblen 76), VOILA (Joe Gatty 73), and SEA PATROL (Cleo Palmer 69).

If you select any of these award-winning Intermediate Bearded irises to grow in your garden, you are certain to have many years of pleasure seeing them bloom.

## **AIS Affiliates**

#### Dave Niswonger

Region	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
1	3	3	3	4	4	4
2	1	1	1	1	1	1
3	1	3	4	4	3	3
4	4	5	5	6	7	8
5	7	6	6	6	8	8
6	11	11	10	9	9	10
7	10	10	10	10	11	11
8	2	2	2	3	3	3
9	2 5	6	6	6	6	6
10	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	2	1	1	1	1	1
12	1	1	1	1	1	2
13	3	3	3	4	5	2 5
14	13	14	14	14	15	15
15	7	6	6	7	8	8
16	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	11	12	13	13	12	14
18	15	15	15	15	17	17
19	1	1	1	1	1	1
20	1	1	2	2	2	2
21	8	8	7	7	7	7
22	5	8	9	10	11	13
23	7	7	7	7	7	7
24	9	8	7	7	6	7
TOTAL NUMBER						
OF AFFILIATES	127	132	133	138	145	153

## **Approved Affiliates for 1991**

#### Region 1

#### Connecticut Iris Society

Richard Kiyomoto 486 Skiff Street North Haven, CT 06473

#### Iris Society of Massachusetts

Lucy G. Burton 188 Sagamore Street South Hamilton, MA 01982

#### Maine Iris Society

Edward W. White Jackson Hill Road RFD /2, Box 980 Auburn, ME 04210

#### Western New England Iris Society

Deborah Wheeler RR 1, Box 305 B Colrain, MA 01340

#### Region 2

#### **Empire State Iris Society**

Carl M. O'Shea Route 4, Box 461, Reservoir Rd. Clinton, NY 13323

#### Region 3

#### Delaware Valley Iris Society

Joy Westfall 673 West Boot Road Downingtown, PA 19335

#### Diamond State Iris Society

Theresa L. Jewell 310 Lloyd Guessford Townsend, DE 19734

#### Susquehanna Iris Society

Harold L. Griffie Box 315 Biglerville, PA 17307

#### Region 4

#### Alleghany Highlands Iris Society

Mrs. Libby A. Cross Route 4, Box 399-M Covington, VA 24426

#### Blue Ridge Iris Society

Dennis Stoneburner 2114 Avenel Avenue Roanoke, VA 24015

#### Carolina Mountain Iris Society

Walter Hoover P. O. Box 337 Saluda, NC 28773

## Chesapeake and Potomac Iris

Society

Diana Nicholls 4724 Angus Drive Gainesville, VA 22065

#### Francis Scott Key Iris Society

Rosalie Yerkes Figge (Mrs. Frank H. J. Figge) 4 Maryland Avenue Towson, MD 21204

## Fredericksburg-Richmond Iris Society

Freda S. Martin 907 Charlotte Street Fredericksburg, VA 22401

#### Tidewater Iris Society

Pat Dawley 115 South Great Neck Road Virginia Beach, VA 23454

#### Williamsburg Iris Society

John W. "Bill" Weaver 114 Argall Town Lane Williamsburg, VA 23185

#### Region 5

Flint River Iris Society
Mrs. Donald (Betty) Jones
205 McKinley Drive
Griffin, GA 30223

Florida Iris Society
Marjorie Starkey
111 49th Ave. Drive West
Bradenton, FL 33507
4255 Tobias Road
Akron, MI 48701

Foothills Iris Club
Billy Langston
Route 4, Box 575
Toccoa, GA 30577

Georgia Iris Society
R. L. (Dick) Hammond
1359 Benteen Way
Atlanta, GA 30315

Oconee Valley Iris Club Sara T. Hood 333 North Main Street Tennille, GA 31089

Piedmont Carolina Iris Society Mrs. Tommy Johnson 290 West Hampton Avenue Spartanburg, SC 29301

South Carolina Iris Society Ann S. Coggins 377 Harmon Road Hopkins, SC 29061

The Summerville Iris Society Mrs. Wells Burton 3275 Miller Drive Ladson, SC 29456

#### Region 6

Akron Area Iris Society Kevin S. Westmeyer 209 South Canton Road Akron, OH 44312-1505 Central Ohio Iris Society
E. Christine Cremeans
244 East Center Street
West Mansfield, OH 43358

Grand Valley Iris Society
Gene Kozak
2109 Kinney N.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Indiana Daylily-Iris Society
Judy Vaught
Route 4, Box 197
Franklin, IN 46131

Iris Growers of Eastern Indiana Jack Norrick 1120 East 800 North Muncie, IN 47303

Northeast Ohio Iris Society
Anthony Willott
26231 Shaker Boulevard
Beachwood, OH 44122-7111

Northeastern Indiana Iris Society Lynda S. Miller 3167 E. U. S. 224 Ossian, IN 46777

Southern Michigan Iris and Hemerocallis Society Dorothy Stahly 8343 Manchester Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Southwestern Michigan Iris Society Richard O'Melay 66231 CR652 Mattawan, MI 49071

Tri-County Iris Society
Marguerite L. Jackson
14200 Boichot Road
Lansing, MI 48906

#### Region 7

Blue Grass Iris Society
Rodger Donaldson
2400 Mirahill Dr., Apt. B
Lexington, KY 40509

Jackson Area Iris Society
Trudy Lowe
302 Crescent Avenue
Jackson, TN 38301

Ken-Ten Iris Association Joyce Reynolds Route 2, Box 259-1-A Dresden, TN 38225

Louisville Area Iris Society
Rodney A. Adams
4303 St. Regis Lane
Louisville, KY 40220-

Memphis Area Iris Society
Eugene C. Church
27 Main
Rossville, TN 38066

Mid-State Iris Society
Jerry D. Gifford
5647 Myrtlewood Drive
Nashville, TN 37211

Middle Tennessee Iris Society Mitchel Wright 113 Blue Grass Drive Franklin, TN 37064

Southern Kentucky Iris Society
Dr. Lou A. Ehrcke
659 Mt. Lebanon Pike
Alvaton, KY 42122

Tennessee Valley Iris Society Mrs. M. A. Luna 1660 Mooresville Rd., Rt. 2 Lewisburg, TN 37091

Twin State Iris Society
Mrs. James (Sara) Daves
806 Burton Point Road
Mt. Juliet, TN 37122

West Tennessee Iris Society
J. R. (Ray) Collins
1537 Eastridge Drive
Memphis, TN 38119

#### Region 8

Iris Society of Minnesota Janice M. Broich 4200 46th Avenue North Robbinsdale, MN 55422

Madison Area Iris Society Edwin W. Kelsey W9155 Schofield Road Poynette, WI 53955

Wisconsin Iris Society
Rev. Jerome Bengtson
1438 Breeze Terrace
Racine, WI 53406

#### Region 9

Blackhawk Valley Iris Society, Inc. Francis Brenner Route 1, Box 1, 100 S.E. St. Dakota, IL 61018

Mid-Illinois Iris Society
John L. Bilski
9127 Wedgewood Drive
Fairview Heights, IL 62208

Northern Illinois Iris Society Sylvia W. Smith 25942 Tahoe Ct. Mundelein, IL 60060

Northshore Iris and Daylily Society, Inc. Brian J. Clough 1332 North Bosworth Chicago, IL 60622

Prairie Iris Society
Jerry L. Wilhoit
Route 1, Box 141
Kansas, IL 61933

#### Southern Illinois Iris Society

Steve Poole RR #1, Box 199 Eldorado, IL 62930

#### Region 11

### Missoula Iris Society

Bob Symes Star Route, Box 77 Bonner, MT 59823

#### Region 12

#### Logan Iris Society

Robert W. Reeder 129 East 2 No. (PO #9) Hyde Park, UT 84318

#### **Utah Iris Society**

Alan F. Toronto 1961 Tartan Avenue Salt Lake City, UT 84108

#### Region 13

#### Greater Portland Iris Society

Wava B. Ludi 36595 SE Highway 211 Sandy, OR 97055

#### King County Iris Society

Frank Hawk 4913½ Woodland Park North Seattle, WA 98103

#### Pierce County Iris Society

Elmer Price 3507 North Stevens Tacoma, WA 98407

#### Tri-City Iris Society

Dona M. Fort 2157 Hoxie Richland, WA 99352

#### Walla Walla Iris Society

Richard W. Johnson 638 Ash Street Walla, Walla, WA 99362

#### Region 14

#### Clara B. Rees Iris Society

Jerry Simmons 4049 Ross Park Drive San Jose, CA 95118

#### Fresno Iris Society

Sharon L. Wylie 51 South Byron Drive Lemoore, CA 93245

#### Kings Iris Society

Evelyn Hayes 51 South Byron Drive Lemoore, CA 93245

#### Las Vegas Iris Society

R. Aaron Schaue 3670 Happy Lane Las Vegas, NV 89120

#### Leo T. Clark-Foothill Area Iris Society

Wayne J. Barry Route 4, Box 4093 Orland, CA 95963

#### Monterey Bay Iris Society

Joseph J. Ghio 1201 Bay Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060

#### Mt. Diablo Iris Society

Paula Vaaler 136 Wilson Way American Canyon, CA 94589

#### Redwood Iris Society

Kitty Loberg 1900 Mt. View Lane Redwood Valley, CA 95470

#### Sacramento Iris Society

Walter J. Dean 2334 Whittier Place Fairfield, CA 94533 Santa Rosa Iris Society
Mrs. G. R. (Jean) Erickson
4036 Trinity Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Sequoia Iris Society George H. Sutton 16592 Road 208 Porterville, CA 93257

Shasta Iris Society Carole Vossen P. O. Box 7 Igo, CA 96047

Southern Nevada Iris Society
Barry Ivens
247 Mojave Lane
Henderson, NV 89015

Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society Edward Wilkinson 4145 Lincoln Avenue Oakland, CA 94602-2524

West Bay Iris Society Gigi Hall 40417 Citrus Drive Fremont, CA 94538

#### Region 15

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society Patricia J. Girl P. O. Box 715 Acton, CA 93510

Inland Iris Society
Joe Daugherty
5572 Amethyst Avenue
Alta Loma, CA 91701

Orange County Iris & Daylily Club Gene Strawn 10411 Morningside Drive Garden Grove, CA 92643

San Diego-Imperial Counties Iris Society William E. Barr 12565 Cloudesly Drive San Diego, CA 92128 San Fernando Valley Iris Society Donald M. Cunningham 12414 Daryl Avenue Granada Hills, CA 91344

Southern California Iris Society James H. Jones 2213 Sparrow Hill Lane Lakewood, CA 90712

Sun Country Iris Society
Peggy Morphew
4916 West Merrell Street
Phoenix, AZ 85031

Tucson Area Iris Society
Hayden W. (Bill) Huffman
624 West Calle Sevilla
Tucson, AZ 85706

#### Region 17

Belton Iris Society
Fadine Hanna
Route 5, Box 5567-C
Belton, TX 76513

Benson Iris Society
Annetta Reusch
42 Surrey
Iowa Park, TX 76367

Fort Worth Iris Society Keith A. Smith 6008 Wonder Drive Ft. Worth, TX 76133

Iris Society of Austin Mel Landers 405 Cherry Hill Austin, TX 78704

Iris Society of Dallas Bonnie J. Brewer 3365 Northhaven Road Dallas, TX 75229

Johnson County Iris and Daylily Society Mary L. Huggins 867 West Elm Stephenville, TX 76401

#### New Braunfels Iris Society Mrs. J. R. (Bobbie) Allen 1206 East Common New Braunfels, TX 78130

## North Plains Iris Society Don Johnson 2818 Barbara Lane Amarillo, TX 79109

## Permian Basin Iris Society John R. Howlett, Jr., M.D. 3300 South FM 1788, Suite 103 Midland, TX 79703

## Rainbow Iris Society Randolph L. Hall 1722 Yarborough Sherman, TX 75090

## South Plains Iris Society Dr. Billy G. Skillman 5402 26th Street Lubbock, TX 79407

# Texoma Iris Society Mrs. Judith Earp 2601 Caprice Avenue Denison, TX 75020

#### Waco Iris Society Mrs. Hazel Haik 2300 Colonial Waco, TX 76707

#### West Texas Iris Society Mildred W. Stuart 1910 West Indiana Midland, TX 79701

#### Region 18

#### Augusta Iris Society Clancy Walz Route 2, Box 188 Augusta, KS 67010

#### Boothill Iris Club Burnice Shelly 2207 Hart Dodge City, KS 67801

#### Garden City Area Iris Club Keith Fillmore 4435 East Mancy Avenue Garden City, KS 67846

#### Greater Kansas City Iris Society Jim Murrain 3233 McGee Kansas City, MO 64111

#### Greater St. Louis Iris Society Jean Morris 682 Huntley Heights Drive Ballwin, MO 63021

#### Hi-Plains Iris Club Cheryl Traub Box 75 Utica, KS 67584

#### Hutchinson Iris Club Betty Lou Hill Route 1, Box 45 Plevna, KS 67568

# Iris Society of the Ozarks Thomas Grim Route 10, Box 774 Springfield, MO 65803

#### Jeffco Iris Society Kenneth Lee Kremer 5803 Amberway Drive St. Louis, MO 63128

#### Mineral Area Iris Society Clyde F. Hahn 200 North School Street Desloge, MO 63601

# O'Fallon Iris Society Ken Elgart #1 Summer Court St. Paul, MO 63366

#### Parsons Area Iris Society Sue Peters 4314 South 35th Parsons, KS 67357

## Semo Iris Society

Virginia C. Bruhl Route 1, Box 291-A Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

#### Show Me Iris Society

Marsha Richeson 1201 Jobe Jefferson City, MO 65101

#### Tri-State Iris Society

Barbara L. Bowman Route 2, Box 208 Carthage, MO 64836

#### Washington Iris Society

Robert J. Koch 1985 Timberline Drive Pacific, MO 63069

#### Wichita Area Iris Club

Mike Hargrove 1818 Cramer Wichita, KS 67212

#### Region 19

#### Garden State Iris Society

Nancy Szmuriga 444 South 5th Avenue Highland Park, NJ 08904

#### Region 20

#### Elmohr Iris Society

Susan Ewell 2303 North Murray Boulevard Colorado Springs, CO 80915

#### Loomis Iris Society

Emery Swartzendruber 702 South 13th Street Rocky Ford, CO 81067

#### Region 21

#### **Dawson County Iris Society**

Victor Jorecning 1603 Grafton Drive Lexington, NE 68850

#### Elkhorn Valley Iris Society

Jim Hummel 801 Logan Wayne, NE 68787

#### Greater Omaha Iris Society

Sally A. Bergei 9042 Jones Street Omaha, NE 68114

#### Sioux Empire Iris Society

Patrick R. Hemmer 721 South Walts Avenue Sioux Falls, SD 57104

#### Siouxland Iris Society

Dennis Wolf RR #1, Box 124 Le Mars, IA 51031

#### The Lincoln Iris Society

Phil Rooney 4851 Normal Boulevard Lincoln, NE 68506

#### Trails West Iris Society

Viola Schreiner HC 86, Box 91 Bayard, NE 69334

#### Region 22

#### Central Arkansas Iris Society

Tom W. Dillard No. 12 Normandy Road Little Rock, AR 72207

#### Hot Springs Iris Society

Fred Penwell 22 Aracena Lane Hot Springs, AR 71909

#### Lawton Area Iris Society

Howard Edwards Route 2, Box 389 Duncan, OK 73533

#### Norman Iris Society

Mrs. L. D. (Novalee) Worley 2417 Brentwood Drive Norman, OK 73069

#### North Central Iris Society

Dana Wade 505 South Coolidge Enid, OK 73703

#### Northern Oklahoma Iris Society

Ray Cantwell 320 North 9th Street Ponca City, OK 74601

#### Oklahoma Iris Society

Helen L. Foster 2404 SW 81st Street Oklahoma City, OK 73159

#### River Valley Iris Society

Juanita F. Vaughn 202 Old Post Road Russellville, AR 72801

#### Rolling Hills Iris Society

Paul W. Gossett 4107 E. 2nd Place Tulsa, OK 74112

#### Sooner State Iris Society

James Hawley 2001 East 2nd Edmond, OK 73034

#### Southwest Oklahoma Iris Society

Ruth B. Simmons Route 1, Box 67 Walters, OK 73572

#### Tulsa Area Iris Society

Paul W. Gossett 4107 East 2nd Place Tulsa, OK 74112

#### White County Iris Society

LaVera Burkett 1002 Randall Searcy, AR 72143

#### Region 23

#### Albuquerque Aril Society

Peter R. McGrath 2725 Espanola N.E. Albuquerque, NM 87110

#### Lea County Iris Society

David Ray Hooten P. O. Box 2133 Hobbs, NM 88240

#### Mesilla Valley Iris Society

Mary Ellen Tafoya 2005 Corley Drive Las Cruces, NM 88001

#### **New Mexico Iris Society**

Karen Bergamo 2508 Punta De Vista NE Albuquerque, NM 87112

#### Roswell Iris Society

Mrs. John H. (Letha) Dent 3011 Diamond A Drive Roswell, NM 88201

#### Santa Fe Iris Society

Labriano Anaya P. O. Box 227 Cerrillos, NM 87010

#### The Albuquerque Iris Guild

Bill Coursey 7723 Black Mesa Loop, SW Albuquerque, NM 87105

#### Region 24

#### **Arab Iris Society**

M. L. Underwood 895 Maple Hill Road Arab, AL 35016

#### Birmingham Area Iris Society

Mrs. Roy Lockhart P. O. Box 20051 Birmingham, AL 35216

#### Blount Iris and Daylily Society

John Graves Route 2, Box 10 E Blountsville, AL 35031

#### **Botanical Garden Iris Society**

Rosa Belle Van Valkenburgh 4747 Bob Wallace Huntsville, AL 35805 Cullman Iris and Daylily Society
Dorothy Holmes
592 Wildwood Trail
Warrior, AL 35180

Marshall Iris Society John J. Adkins, Jr. 200 Pecan Avenue Albertville, AL 35950

Huntsville Chapter of A.I.S.

Edith M. Nevels 9000 Shereton Road Huntsville, AL 35802

## International Competition For Irises—Florence, Italy

#### 1991 Awards

#### Premio Firenze

- 1. PRINCE CHARMING (Bryce Williamson, USA)
- 2. LEIBNIZ (Harold Moos, Germany)
- 3. KNIGHTED (Timothy Blyth, Australia)
- 4. DAREDEVIL (Keith Keppel, USA)

#### Honorable Mention

- 5. DANCE WITH ME (Margie Robinson, USA)
- 6. RUSTLER (Keith Keppel, USA)
- 7. 84-6 (Franklin Carr, USA) ARMADA (Keith Keppel, USA)
- 9. JITTERBUG (Keith Keppel, USA)
- 10. ISABEAU (Silvano Volani, Italy)

#### Special Awards

Hybridizer with most award winners: Keith Keppel, USA Best Red: NIEDERSACHSENROSS, Harold Moos, Germany Most Commercial Variety: RUSTLER, Keith Keppel, USA

Best Branching: LEIBNIZ, Harold Moos, Germany

Best Early Variety: PRINCE CHARMING, Bryce Williamson, USA Best Dark Colored Variety: OKLAHOMA CRUDE, Paul Black, USA

Most Original Color: DAREDEVIL, Keith Keppel, USA Most Fragrant Variety: ARMADA, Keith Keppel, USA Best Garden Variety: KNIGHTED, T.J. Blyth, Australia

Best Italian Variety: ISABEAU, Silvano Volani

Best Late Variety: CANNINGTON SWEET PUFF, C.E. C. Bartlett, Great Britain

## IN MEMORIAM Bion Tolman

Keith H. Wagstaff

Bion Tolman, longtime irisarian and past RVP (2 terms) from Region 12, passed away March 19, 1991, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Bion was an accomplished gardener, hybridizer, and photographer. His garden was always a showplace, and he loved "showing" it off. His many perennials, unique trees and shrubs, roses, and especially his many irises were a pleasure to view. He registered and introduced 32 iris cultivars. His most popular were: Pacific Waters, Lucille Tolman, Stitched Beauty, and Big Brother. He prepared and presented many slide shows on irises for Region 12 and Utah Iris Society meetings.

Professionally, Bion was an agriculture specialist. Most of his career was spent with the Utah-Idaho Sugar Company where he was Research Director, Agriculture Superintendent, and Vice-President of Agriculture. His expertise in this area was beneficial in his gardenng. He really knew how to grow things.

His lovely wife Lucille preceded him in death in 1983. He is survived by six daughters, 31 grandchildren, and 29 great-grandchildren.

His sage advice and council, lovely garden, and hearty laugh will be missed by one and all.

## **IN MEMORIAM**

Norman L. Comus—Alabama Jack Fitzgerald—California W. G. (Bill) Frass—Oklahoma John Holden—California Mary Hoskins—California Robert Hubley—California Clara A. Lampley—Tennessee Mary Moritz—Missouri Helen Oefstos—Arizona Dorothy Sbuttoni—Tennessee Vester Scruggs—Alabama Joe Starr—New Mexico

#### CONTRIBUTIONS AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY: Send to The American Iris Society, Jeane Stayer, Secretary, 7414 E. 60th St., Tulsa, OK 74145.

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY FOUNDATION: Send to AIS Foundation, Richard T. Pettijohn, Treasurer, 2510 S. 148th Avenue, Omaha, NE 68144. Donations to the Foundation and AIS are tax deductible.

Note: please include name and address of next-of-kin pertaining to memorial gifts, so that a card of acknowledgment may be sent. Checks should be payable to the American Iris Society or the American Iris Society Foundation.

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY FOUNDATION

October 1, 1990 to March 31, 1991

#### **CONTRIBUTIONS IN MEMORY OF:**

Tressie Cook (LA)

M. E. Rockwell (TX)

John Cortell (CA)

James P. McWhirter (CA)

**Bonnie Dunbar (IL)** 

Region 9, AIS (IL)

Frances Gaulter (CA)

Joe Gatty (CA)

Melba Hamblen (UT)

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Duane and Joyce Meek (OR)

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Show Me Iris Society (MO)

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Mary N. Hoskins (CA)

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Nell and Glenn Corlew (CA)

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Greater Portland Iris Society

(OR-WA)

Marilyn Holloway (CA)

Iris Society of Minnesota (MN)

Keith Keppel (CA)

King County Iris Society (WA)

Duane and Joyce Meek (OR)

Judith and David Mogil (CA)

Irene Nelson (TX)

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Dick Pettijohn (NE)

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Wyman and Grace Smith (VT)

Lori Lawyer (NM)

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Victor R. Layman, Sr. (VA)

Blue Ridge Iris Society (VA)

Lillian Ludwig (TX)

M. E. Rockwell (TX)

Iona Lyster (PA)

Delaware Valley Iris Society

John C. Lyster (PA)

Delaware Valley Iris Society

**MELROSE'S FANG (CA)** 

Toi Toi and Penni Sue Dunn (CA)

Mrs. Virginia Messer (MN)

Iris Society of Minnesota (MN)

#### Gairdner B. Moment (MD)

Rosalie Yerkes Figge (MD) Francis Scott Key Iris Society (MD)

### Gladys O'Kelly (NM)

Region 23, AIS (NM)

## Bettie Osborne (CA)

Bob and Jean Brown (CA)

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Nell and Glenn Corlew (CA)

Walter and Alene Dean (CA)

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Bill Gibbs (CA)

Ben R. Hager (CA)

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Virginia Messick (CA)

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Kay Nelson (NE)

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Sydney B. Mitchell Iris

Society (CA)

George and Olive Rice

Waters (CA)

#### Mrs. Perry (Kay) Parrish (OK)

Melba B. Hamblen (UT)

Keith Keppel (CA)

Sooner State Iris Society (OK)

## Henrietta Payne (OK)

Sooner State Iris Society (OK)

#### William H. Phillips (MD)

Mr. and Mrs. David Blackburn (MA)

Mrs. Frank H. J. Figge (MD)

Francis Scott Key Iris Society (MD)

Mr. and Mrs. Iven Greene (MA)

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Veronica R. Phillips (MD)

Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Puglese

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Joe and Shirley Puglese (MD)

John and Barbara Sieg (MD)

William H. and Elizabeth B.

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Rosalie L. Waterfield (MD)

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#### **Harold Plato (OK)**

Sooner State Iris Society (OK)

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Rosalie Yerkes Figge (MD) Francis Scott Key Iris Society (MD)

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## Martha P. Richeson (MO)

Show Me Iris Society (MO)

### Elsie G. Roach (NE)

Gene Gaddie (NE) V. O. Sellers (NE)

### Rita Robinson (OK)

Sooner State Iris Society (OK)

## C. C. Rockwell, Jr. (TX)

Keith Keppel (CA)

Duane and Joyce Meek (OR)

#### Paul Rundle (CA)

Bob Brooks (CA)

## Herbert S. Schafer (IL)

Region 9, AIS (IL)

#### Bill Smith (TX)

Iris Society of Dallas (TX)

#### **Nellie Solomon (MO)**

Greater Kansas City Iris Society (KS-MO)

### Joe Starr (NM)

Region 23, AIS (NM)

#### **CONTRIBUTINS IN HONOR OF:**

#### Josephine Bohannon (NM)

Region 23, AIS (NM)

#### James Burch (AL)

M. E. Rockwell (TX)

#### Mrs. George L. Doolittle (NM)

Region 23, AIS (NM)

#### Lillian Gould (NM)

Region 23, AIS (NM)

#### Ben Hager's 75th Birthday

Marion Kasky Gould (CA) Marilyn Holloway (CA)

## Mr. and Mrs. J. E. McClintock (NM)

Region 23, AIS

#### Ron Mullin (OK)

Melba B. Hamblen (UT) M. E. Rockwell (TX)

#### Kay Nelson (NE)

Melba B. Hamblen (UT)

#### Richard Pettijohn (NE)

Melba B. Hamblen (UT)

#### Phil Williams (TN)

M. E. Rockwell (TX)

#### **BEQUEST OF:**

Mathilda A. Reinhardt (WI)

#### GIFT OF:

El Paso Iris Society (TX) Iris Society of Dallas (TX) Show Me Iris Society (MO)

### **SECTION SLIDES AVAILABLE**

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent, which feature irises of each respective group. Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise. Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

ARILS and ARILBREDS: Order from Clay H. Osborne, 47806 Calle Fiesta, Indio, CA 92201—Check tp Aril Society International.

DWARFS: Order from Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beechwood, OH 44122. Check to DIS.

HISTORIC IRIS PRESERVATION SOCIETY (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113.

JAPANESE: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

LOUISIANAS: Order from LaVera Burkett, 1002 Randall, Searcy, AR 72143. Check to LISA.

MEDIANS: Order from Terry Aitken, 608 N.W. 119th St., Vancouver, WA 98685. Check to MIS.

REBLOOMERS: Contact Earl E. Hall, 1495 Enterprise Road, West Alexandria, OH 45381.

SIBERIANS: Order from Thomas Abrego, P.O. Box 693, Newberg, OR 97132. Check to Society for Siberian Irises.

SPECIES: Several sets available—Order from Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave., Sudbury, MA 01776. Check to SIGNA.

SPURIAS: To order, contact Ray M. John, 1004 Springfield, Ft. Worth, TX 76112.

### IRIS SLIDES FOR RENT

AIS offers a number of iris slides sets for rental to members, each consisting of approximately 100 35mm slides. These provide excellent programs for both iris societies and garden clubs.

#### SLIDE SETS AVAILABLE FOR 1991

THE NEWEST IN IRISES: 1988 through 1991 introductions—mostly TB, but contains some other types.

RECENT AWARD WINNERS: HM and AM winners-1987 thru 1990.

THE POPULARITY POLL: Favorite irises as reflected by the 1990 AIS Symposium. RECENT BEAUTIES: Recent introductions which have not as yet won the HM award—mostly TB, but includes other types.

TYPES OTHER THAN TALL BEARDED: Bearded and beardless—arranged in blooming sequence.

RELIABLES: Mostly past award winners of various types—especially suited for newer iris societies and garden clubs.

1989 MEMPHIS CONVENTION: 1990 OMAHA CONVENTION;

**To Order:** Requests for slides should be made well in advance of requested date, preferably six to eight weeks. If optional, specify alternate sets and/or dates. Clearly *print* name and mailing address to whom slides are to be sent. Rental fee is \$7.50 per set, payable to AIS. Only one set allowed for any request date. AIS Affiliate Societies are entitled to one free set per calendar year. Slide sets are to be returned next day after viewing by FIRST CLASS/PRIORITY mail.

Send check with request to:

Howard Shockey, Chairman Slides Committee 4611 Rio Grande Lane, N.W. Albuquerque, N.M. 87107

#### IRIS SLIDES NEEDED

Hybridizers and camera buffs! To keep the existing AIS slide sets updated and of improved quality, a constant supply of good slides is needed. If you have high quality close-up slides of the below listed, won't you please submit them for possible inclusion in the slide sets? Selected slides will be duplicated, and the originals returned to you, if requested. Acute needs for revisions beginning in November are slides of:

1989 through 1991 introductions of all types. 1988 through 1990 HM and AM award winners—all types. Arrangements—Floral designs featuring irises.

Please mail to: Howard Shockey, Chairman Slides Committee

4611 Rio Grande Lane, N.W. Albuquerque, N.M. 87107

SEE PREVIOUS PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL SLIDES FOR RENT

## Should Gardens Have "God Parents?"

Donna Aldridge (Kansas)

Last summer three of us from the Greater Kansas City Iris Society played jungle explorer, cryptographer and archeologist as we rescued scores of irises, peonies and other perennials from a large and wonderful old garden that had lain barely attended for nearly three years before the estate of the elderly gardener was finally untangled. The marker tags had been long ago pulled from their namesakes and carefully stored to facilitate the mowing of the fields. Many of the beds had grown up in saplings and remarkable specimens of poison ivy and other weeds.

Along with the plants, we purchased the gardener's decades of copious notes and lists plus a few maps, but unfortunately, no mindreader to translate or make sense of most of them. We bemoaned the loss of so many beautiful plants for lack of immediate and knowledgeable care, but without clear instructions, arrangements and authority from the gardener, the executors were unable or too unknowledgeable to act.

Another marvelous Kansas City garden fell into limbo quite unexpectedly last year. Two very active and well respected daylily hybridizers and partners, one younger, one older, both passed away within two to three months of each other. Who would have thought . . . ?

We lost a GKCIS member who had a magnificent and unique display collection of daffodils along with painstaking records and a remarkable lifetime library of garden books. Unfortunately, the family, who did not share his interest nor understand the possible importance of his gardening information or plant material to others, discarded them. We've probably all heard stories of significant losses to the gardening world—from an important individual specimen in some famous old garden like Dykes' to a whole line of hybridizing such as the lime/drought-resistant Japanese iris work done in Germany some years ago.

So I started thinking, should gardens have "god parents?" Who will care for your garden when you can't? Who'll give it some immediate care and, if necessary, pass along plants to others who will continue to appreciate and nurture them as much as you have done?

This is a particularly important concern for those who have gardens with very rare or otherwise special plants. These in particular should have continuous monitoring and should be carefully preserved. We're fortunate that more and more work is being done by several AIS Sections and other groups and individuals to spread special plants into a number of caring gardens to preserve and increase them. Better yet, location of many of these plants is being noted on source lists available from several of these groups. Still we ought not let any of these still rare and special plants slip away from us through "inadvertant abandonment."

We must grant that some people don't care what happens when they're gone—and that is their right. Thankfully, others would cringe at the thought of their plants not passing on to others to be enjoyed and worked with to maintain and further iris gardening through the genetic material, the records, and the way the plant just looks and grows!

We need to remember that we all have our own systems of garden labels—some universally clear and obviously placed, others rather cryptic or faded and some ultra-subtle, small and/or buried. And maps—we found out last year that "northwest of the tamarisk tree" is NOT enough clue when there IS NO tamarisk tree there any longer. Maybe YOU know where you had planted it, but not everyone does! Then most of us move things around year to year. Are your records up to date? (Mine aren't. I'm working on it!) Make a new map from time to time, date it, and save the old maps in case you need to refer to them. Handwriting—let's face it, sometimes we can hardly read our own. Could someone else? And we do seem to invent our own shorthand and codes and abbreviations that suit us perfectly and mean absolutely nothing to anyone else!

So tell someone. It may even need to be several different people or someone from out of town who is familiar with certain types of plants. Show someone where things are and how to interpret your notes and maps and what needs what. Someone whom you can trust to understand what they are dealing with and to carry out your wishes. They need clear and ready AUTHORITY. This is important. Arrange it. It's part of your legacy. Make happen what you want to have happen. You might be very glad you've worked this out with someone if you should end up flat on your back convalescing for two or three months some day! And others will appreciate your foresightedness should they lose you.

While playing Jungle Jim can be a interesting adventure, it doesn't make for pleasant gardening. We take our health and life for granted most times—and that's probably best. Still we do have our season. Give some thought to your garden and what you would like to have happen to it if you can't be out there digging in the dirt. Maybe yours is a garden that deserves "god parents!"

## **Container Growing of Bearded Irises**

David R. Rogers (New York)

The winter of 1990-1991 was the season of the Great Experiment—testing growth of bearded irises in nursery containers. In the process, several commercial growers were contacted for advice, as well as a number of dedicated hobbyists and hybridizers. Virtually all reported goods results with one exception. This was a commercial grower who made the mistake of mulching over the containers to provide winter protection. It seems that the straw provided superior winter protection for mice, which promptly invaded the containers, eating or severely damaging more than half the rhizomes. From this result, and living on Long Island, where I have never needed to mulch bed-grown plants, I decided to forego mulching. Adding to this decision is the fact that gardens here are invaded with Pine Voles which are even worse than mice. Their primary diet seems to be restricted to the most expensive of bulbs, preferring Tulips and Lilies, but sometimes taking a nibble of an iris rhizome. For this reason, any mulching at all, even of beds, is ill-advised and can only result in multiplying the curse by providing an ideal winter habitat.

Most Irisarians who reported experience with container growing gave reports of excellent results, most reporting close to 100% bloom from plants containerized the previous Fall. Although they have not yet bloomed, I have already noticed differences in plants grown in containers over the winter.

The first thing noticed was earlier and more rapid growth in containers than in the beds. It is likely that this is due to better warming during the day of the black nursery containers and the black plastic mulch beneath them. The soil is heated more and retains some of this increased heat overnight.

The second observation was that containers drained more rapidly than beds—a distinct advantage when growing bearded irises. This rapid drainage combined with more accurately controlled watering serves a function of disease prevention. Containers were watered with a dilute Clorox solution to sterilize soil against rot. Growing in containers sitting on black plastic eliminates contact with potentially contaminated soil and inhibits spread of disease. It is also a simple matter to isolate and move any diseased plants to prevent spread of disease, something which is difficult in beds.

For those who sell surplus irises in front of the house to the general public, there is a distinct advantage to container growing. Experience here has shown that few people stop in response to an Iris sign to buy bare rhizomes. Most are not familiar with Irises and don't know what they are or what they look like. This is a major disadvantage in sales of rhizomes.

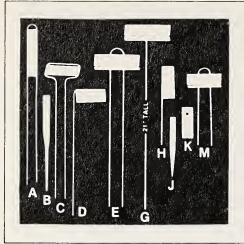
In contrast, container-grown plants can be put on display in bloom, where they seem to attract customers rapidly, and sell well. With proper instructions for planting, better drainage, etc., the customer is likely to have success with the plants. The primary time for rot seems to be immediately after bloom, sometimes starting in the base of the bloomstalk. With containerized plants, this hazard is reduced considerably, resulting in happier customers.

Growing seedlings in containers adds the advantage of being able to easily place any "culls", most of which are still attractive, on display for sale at reduced prices rather than wasting them on the compost pile. Even though not up to the standards of a fussy hybridizer, the general public seems quite satisfied with the bargain. Un-named and numbered seedlings seem to sell faster at lower prices than registered and named varieties. We, as irisarians, must realize that people like anything that is beautiful, and that not everyone has our own high standards of what an iris should be. It is advisable to keep track of who buys seedlings, especially if they are taught to hybridize. One never knows when a real "sleeper" can result from a cull! Therefore, some of us might want to buy back any seedlings or culls which have produced good offspring for later breeding. It is advised to keep a list of customers and spend some time visiting their gardens, particularly if you can convince them to try hybridzing. Good customers who are successful become new irisarians and potential AIS members. This should be remembered.

Before I spend too much time on my soap box making a speech, I will return to the benefits of container growing. Flexibility, tight spacing, and the ability to move plants around are obvious advantages. One particularly attractive feature of container gardening is the ability to custom-mix soil which is not as easily controlled in a bed. Another advantage over beds is the precise control of fertilizers and uniform feeding of each plant. With all fertilizers, especially liquids, fertilizer is confined to the container, assuring plants of uniform dosage and conserving of fertilizer which might otherwise run off and be wasted. Considering contamination of ground-water supplies in some agricultural areas from fertilizer, this precise, controlled method is also a more environmentally sound practice.

One advantage of containers, especially if in wide groupings, is that a hoop house can be easily used with containerized plants if desired, especially for tender young seedlings. Mobility is a key factor where a cool, unheated greenhouse is used. Beds are impractical for such methods.

Obviously, plants in containers are easier to move to a sales area. Digging is eliminated. Plants can easily be knocked out of their containers to be divided, and they require less weeding and virtually no cultivation. Less bending is also required than with beds, a distinct advantage to older gardeners, as plants can even be grown on benches elevated to a convenient level for no-bend gardening. Readers could probably come up with advantages I haven't thought of, but I hope I have listed enough to encourage at least experimentation with containerized growing, a modern and most successful nursery growing technique. Those who have had poor luck, especially with rot, may find container-growing to be more successful. This year's experiment seems to have proven in this location, that bearded irises in containers do over-winter at least as well, in fact, generally better than plants in beds. I hope that more of you will try it, and I look forward to any reports, especially from very cold areas.



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SECTION MEMBERSHIP RATES	single annual	single triennial	family annual	family triennial
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North America	3.50	9.00	4.50	10.50
Louisiana Iris Society of America	3.00	8.00	4.50	12.00
Dwarf Iris Society	3.00	8.00	4.50	12.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00

Membership in AIS sections is open to all AIS members. Payment may be made directly to the Section, or may be made payable to the American Iris Society and sent to AIS Membership Secretary, Marilyn Harlow, P.O. Box 8455, San Jose, CA 95155

## YOUR SYMPOSIUM BALLOT 1992

## PLEASE VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE TALL BEARDED IRIS VARIETIES

All members of the American Iris Society are urged to participate in this ballot in order that we may obtain a wide consensus of the tall bearded iris varieties that grow and bloom best in gardens throughout America. Mail the completed ballot to your RVP by September 1, 1991. Final results will be published as the popularity poll in a future issue of the Bulletin. Please vote!

ATTENTION: OVERSEAS MEMBERS are invited to vote the Symposium Ballot. Instructions on page 2.

**BULLETIN OF THE** 

## **AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY**

VOL. LXXII, NO. 3 SERIES 282, JULY 1991

\*SECTION 2

#### PLEASE VOTE

## FIFTY SECOND OFFICIAL SYMPOSIUM OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY 1992

This is your ballot to help determine the One Hundred Favorite Irises for 1992. The list of candidates was completed by combining the following lists of outstanding varieties:

The 100 top varieties in last year's Symposium
The tall bearded irises eligible for 1991 Dykes Medal
The tall bearded irises eligible for 1991 Awards of Merit
The tall bearded irises that won 1990 Awards of Merit
The tall bearded irises that won 1990 Honorable Mentions

Every member of the American Iris Society may participate in this balloting of the 397 irises listed on the following pages. Each member is allowed twenty-five votes. Please follow the instructions below.

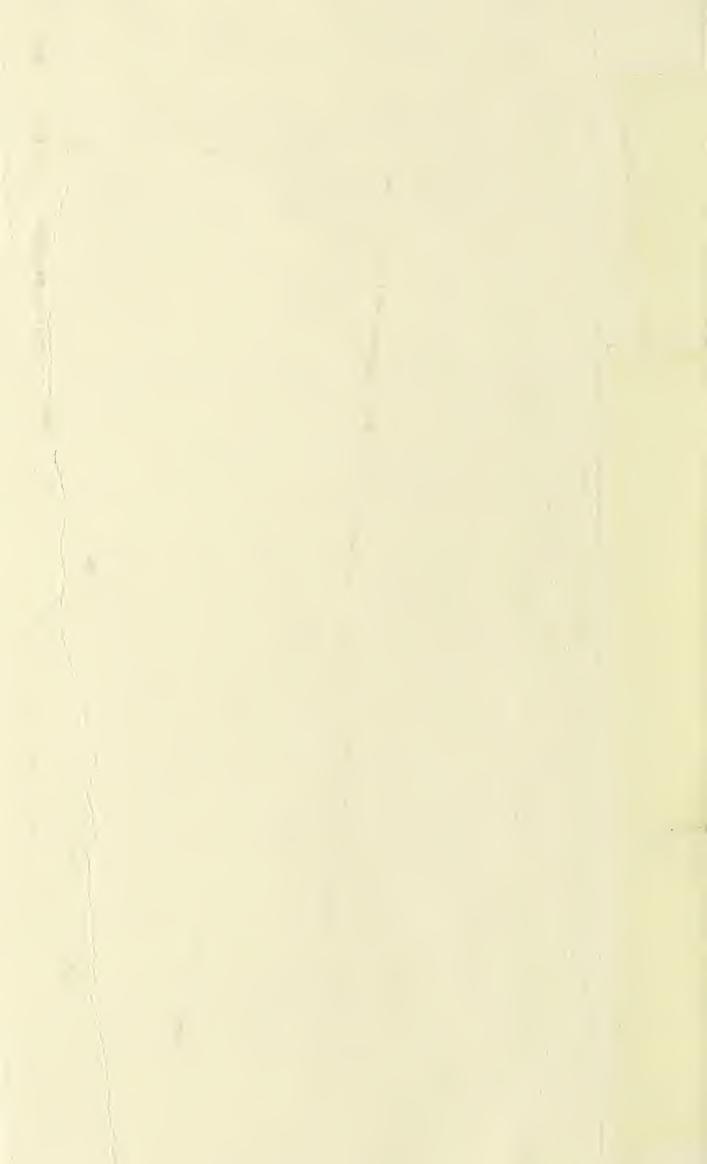
1. Vote only for an iris that you have seen blooming in a garden.

- 2. Clearly place an X in front of each of your twenty-five favorites. The second member of a family membership should use an O symbol to designate votes. Additional, family or youth members should use a number (1, 2, 3, etc.) in front of each vote to identify it. Each member is entitled to a maximum of twenty-five votes. Since the ballot is designed for easy tabulation by the Regional Vice Presidents, please follow directions carefully.
- 3. No member may vote for more than twenty-five varieties. You may vote for fewer than twenty-five if you wish.
- 4. Your ballot must be *mailed to your Regional Vice President* by September 1, 1991 in order to be counted. The name of your RVP is listed inside the back cover of each AIS Bulletin. Sign your ballot and mail it first class.

NAME(S)	
ADDRESS	

5. Overseas members may vote by mailing their ballot to the Awards Committee Chairman whose name and address appear on the inside cover of each AIS Bulletin. It is advisable to send by Air Mail to assure receipt of Ballot by the deadline of September 1, 1991.

LORILEE .	OKTOBERFEST	RAGTIME
LOYALIST	OLYMPIAD	RANCHO ROSE
LULLABY OF SPRING	OLYMPIC CHALLENGE	RARE TREAT
MAGIC	ORANGE CELEBRITY	RASPBERRY FRILLS
MALAGUENA	ORANGE SLICES	RAVEN ROCK
MARAUDER	ORBITER	RED LION
MARIA TORMENA	ORIENTAL KNIGHT	RED REWARD
MARRIAGE YOWS	PACIFIC TIDE	RHYTHM ON ICE
MARY FRANCIS	PAGAN PINK	RINGO
MASTER TOUCH	PARADISE	ROBUSTO
MATINEE IDOL	PEACH BISQUE	ROLE MODEL
MELISSA SUE	PEKING SUMMER	ROMANTIC MOOD
MEMOIRS	PERFECT INTERLUDE	RON
MEMPHIS BLUES	PERFECTA	ROSECRAFT
MICHELE TAYLOR	PERSIAN BERRY	ROUND TABLE
MICHIGAN PRIDE	PERSIAN GOWN	ROYAL CRUSADER
MIDNIGHT FIRE	PINK FROTH	ROYAL SATIN
MING ROSE	PINK TAFFETA	ROYALIST
MOMENT IN TIME	PIPING HOT	RUFFLED BALLET
MOMENTUM	PISTOL	RUFFLES GALORE
MONTEYIDEO	PLANNED TREASURE	RUSTLER
MOON'S DELIGHT	PLAY WITH FIRE	SAFFRON FLAME
MOUNTAIN VIOLET	PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE	SAPPHIRE HILLS
MUCHAS GRACIAS	POET	SATIN SATAN
MULLED WINE	POINT MADE	SEA OF JOY
MY VALENTINE	PORCELAIN BALLET	SEA WOLF
MYSTIQUE	PRECIOUS MOMENTS	SHALAKO
NAYAJO JEWEL	PRESENCE	SHAWNEE WHISPER
NANCY GLAZIER	PULSAR	SHEPHERD'S HEY
NAYY STRUT	PURGATORY	SHIPSHAPE
NAYY WAYES	PURPLE PEPPER	SILKWOOD
NEEDLEPOINT	QUASAR	SILVER FLOW
NEIL DIAMOND	QUEEN DOROTHY	SILYERADO
NEW MOON	QUEEN IN CALICO	SIMPLY PRETTY
NOBLE HOUSE	QUEEN OF HEARTS	SIX PACK
OH BABE	RADIANT ENERGY	SKATING PARTY



ADVENTURESS	BREAKERS	CLASSICO	ELSIEMAE NICHOLSON	GLAD RAGS	INLAND PRINCESS
AFTERNOON DELIGHT	BRIDE'S HALO	CLOUDLESS SUNRISE	ENCHANTING	GLADYS AUSTIN	INSTRUCTOR
ALICE GOODMAN	BROACADED GOWN	CODICIL	ENTOURAGE	GLISTENING ICICLE	IRIS IRENE
ALTRUIST	BRONZE S CULPTURE	CONGRATULATIONS	ESMERALDA	GLIŢZ AND GLITTER	JAZZEBEL
AMAZON BRIDE	BUBBLING LACE	COPPER CLASSIC	EVELYN'S ECHO	GOING MY WAY	JEAN HOFFMEISTER
AMBROSIA DELIGHT	BUBBLING OVER	COPPER LACE	EYENING GOWN	GOLD COUNTRY	JENNIFER REBECCA
AMERICAN BEAUTY	BUBBLING SEAS	COUNTRY BRIDE	EVENING VELVET	GOLD GALORE	JESSE'S SONG
AMETHYST FLAME	BUBBLY MOOD	CREATIVE STITCHERY	EVER AFTER	GRADUATION	JITTERBUG
ANNA BELLE BABSON	BUFFY	CRANBERRY CRUSH	EVERYTHING PLUS	GRAND WALTZ	JO VALLEY
APACHE ROSE	BURGEMEISTER	CRANBERRY ICE	EXHILARATION	GRECIAN SKIES	JOLT
APHRODISIAC	BURGUNDY BUBBLES	CRUZIN	EXOTIC STAR	GYPSY WOMAN	JOYCE TERRY
APRICOT FANTASY	BUTTER CRISP	CRYSTAL CATHEDRAL	EXTRAVAGANT	HAIDA DANCER	JOYOUS MELODY
ARMADA	CAFE SOCIETY	CRYSTAL GLITTERS	FAIME	HEAT PUMP	JUST MARRIED
AUTOGRAPH	CALIPH	CRYSTALYN	FANCY BRASS	HEATHER BLUSH	KABAKA
AZTEC TREASURE	CAMELOT ROSE	CUP RACE	FANFARON	HEATHER RIDGE	KAREN
BABBLING BROOK	CANDELERO	CURIOUS YELLOW	FARAWAY PLACES	HEAVEN'S SHORE	KAREN CHRISTINE
BACK IN BLACK	CAPRICIOUS	CYCLES	FASHION ARTISTE	HERITAGE LACE	KATY LYNN
BAMA BERRY	CARNIVAL IN RIO	DANGER	FEMININE WILES	HINDENBURG	KEKIONGA
BAYBERRY CANDLE	CATALYST	DAREDEYIL	FINE CHINA	HOLY NIGHT	KENTUCKY COAL
BEAUTIFUL SURPRISE	CAYENNE PEPPÉR	DARKSIDE	FIVE STAR ADMIRAL	HONKY TONK BLUES	KILT LILT
BEST BET	CELESTIAL STORM	DAZZLING GOLD	FLAMING VICTORY	HOT STREAK	LACE ARTISTRY
BEVERLY SILLS	CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE	DEBBY RAIRDON	FLASHPOINT	HOUDINI	LACED COTTON
BLACK FLAG	CHANGE OF HEART	DESIGNER GOWN	FOOLISH FANCY	HOWDY DO	LACY SNOWFLAKE
BLACK HILLS GOLD	CHARGER	DIVINE	FORTUNĂTĂ	HULA DANCER	LADY FRIEND
BLACK MADONNA	CHARMED LIFE	DIVINITY	FOXY LADY	ICE CASTLE	LADY MADONNA
BLACK PEARL	CHERRY SMOKE	DOROTHY PALMER	FRAGRANT LILAC	ICE CAVE	LAREDO
BLACKOUT	CHICO MAID	DOVER BEACH	FRINGE BENEFITS	IMÅGE MÅKER	LARRY GAULTER
BLAZING SUNRISE	CHIEF REDSKIN	DREAM LOVER	FRINGE OF GOLD	IMMORTALITY	LATIN HIDEAWAY
BLOWTORCH	CHOCOLATE ROYALE	DUSKY CHALLENGER	FURNACE CREEK	iMPRESSIONIST	LATIN LOVER
BLUE ARISTO CRAT	CHRISTA	DUSKY DANCER	GALA MADRID	IN TOWN	LATIN ROCK
BLUE SAPPHIRE	CHRISTMAS TIME	EAGLE'S FLIGHT	GAY MYSTIQUE	INAUGURAL BALL	LEDA'S LOVER
BLUES ON PARADE	CHUCK WALTERMIRE	EASTER LACE	GAY PARASOL	INCANTATION	LEMON MIST
BODACIOUS	CHUCKLES	EASTER SONG	GENTLE DRAGON	INDIAN CERAMICS	LET'S DANCE
BOLD GOLD	CINDERELLA'S COACH	EASTERTIME	GIFT OF DREAMS	INDIS CREET	LIAISON
BOY FRIEND	CIRCUS JEWEL	EDGE OF WINTER	GIGOLO	INFINITE GRACE	LITTLE MUCH
BRASSY BROAD	CLASSIC EDITION	EDITH WOLFORD	GINGER SWIRL	INGA IVEY	LORD JEFF

SKIERS DELIGHT	SUPERMAN	YENUS AND MARS
SKY HOOKS	SUPERSTITION	YERACITY
SKYBLAZE	SUPREME SULTAN	YERISMO
SNOWBROOK	SWEET MUSETTE	YICTORIA FALLS
SOCIAL REGISTER	SWEETER THAN WINE	YISION IN PINK
SON OF STAR	SWIRLING SEAS	YISUAL ARTS
SONG OF NORWAY	SYNCOPATION	WAGONTRAIL NIGHT
SOONER SERENADE	TASSELLENA	WAR SAILS
SOPHISTICATION	THEATRE	WARRIOR KING
SPACELAB	THRILLER	WEDDING CANDLES
SPECULATOR	TIDE MARK	WHOEE
SPICED CUSTARD	TIDE'S IN	WILD JASMINE
SPINNING WHEEL	TIME PIECE	WILD OATS
SQUEEZE LOUISE	TITAN'S GLORY	WINDSONG WEST
STELLAR LIGHTS	TOASTMASTER	WINDWALKER
STEPPING OUT	TOMORROW'S CHILD	WINE AND ROSES
STERLING PRINCE	TOP GUN	WINEMASTER
STOP THE MUSIC	TOWERING INFERNO	WINIFRED ROSS
STUDY IN BLACK	TUT'S GOLD	WINTER OLYMPICS
SUCCESS STORY	TWICE THRILLING	WINTERS CAPE
SUGARTIME	UNDERSEA ADVENTURE	WITCH'S WAND
SUN DAPPLED	VAN GOGH	WITCHES: SABBATH
SUNKIST FRILLS	YANITY	YUKON FEYER
SUNNY AND WARM	YANITY'S CHILD	
SUNSHINE SONG	YARGA GIRL	

## IRIS OF CHINA



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## **Iris Scents**

Louise Clay Smith (Virginia)

Irises have rightfully been described as being the most beautiful of all flowers. They are found throughout most areas of the world; growing in such diverse situations as mountains, swamplands, deserts, in very cold and in hot regions. Those seen today in most gardens in the United States are hybrids which have been developed over many years by hybridizers seeking new color combinations, sturdier plant growth, reblooming capability and other improvements. It has often been said that probably more desirable variations can be created by hybridizing irises from all these many varied species with such varied backgrounds and fragrances than from any other flower. The old-fashioned purple "Flags" often seen in Grandma's garden are among the ancestors of many of today's hybrids.

Perhaps the least recognized feature of irises is their broad range of fragrances. Although some have no fragrance at all, and a few have undesirable scents, some of the most pleasurable aromas imaginable are now found in many Irises.

Because fragrances are among its most delightful attributes, I started a series of Fragrance Robins to study and research iris scents seriously and intensively. For the past 13 years I was the Director of the Fragrance Robins of the American Iris Society, and we made some unexpected and interesting findings.

I joined the American Iris Society when I retired and felt free to finally realize my dream. First and happiest retirement plan was to soon have a yard full of beautiful and—OF COURSE—FRAGRANT irises. I ordered 200 varieties; planted them with a heart full of happy dreams.

Of course they didn't all bloom that next spring, but that wasn't too disappointing. The incredible surprise and disappointment was that of the 100 that DID bloom—only 4 were fragrant, 90 had absolutely no detectable scent at all, but the greatest shock was that the other 6 were bad-smelling! I never, in my 62 years, had heard that any irises were scentless, but most certainly I had never in my wildest dreams heard that there were "stinky" irises!

I searched for fragrance information everywhere. I actually could not find any iris growers in Williamsburg, Virginia, to ask for help. I did not yet know that this was not "iris-growing territory," but, rather, highly acid azalea-and-holly territory. (I had a world of learning about soil pH ahead of me!)

I brought \$50 worth of back-issues of AIS Bulletins and discovered that iris fragrances had been studied by Ethel Peckham back in the beginnings of the AIS and were printed in the 1939 Check List of Irises in which the newly formed American Iris Society had attempted to locate and print Iris information from all possible sources so it could be compared and corrected by members. I delightedly bought that book. Here are Mrs. Peckhams remarks, with the unbelieveably limited list of the fragrances she found:

Excerpted and re-printed below is the original FRAGRANCE CLASSIFICA-TION information compiled by ETHEL ANSON S. PECKHAM, as printed on pages 12-15 in the Alphabetical Iris Check List, 1939.

#### Fragrance Classification

"In the AIS Check List 1929," varieties that were known to have some sort of fragrance were marked with the symbol =. While some sort of record had been kept of fragrance of irises, I think no one attempted before this to make a fragrance classification. I possessed notes made from the very large collection at the Test Garden at the New York Botanical Garden and, naturally, there were some references to types of fragrance in printed descriptions by botanists, but in the majority of cases nobody ever bothered to report about it. The judging standards adopted by the AIS probably brought fragrance to the attention of many, and requests and insistence from the Registrar has resulted in information being obtained about the newer varieties. Mr. Gersdorff has always been much interested in fragrance and has contributed a great deal of work towards checking varieties. It has seemed to me for many years that all fragrance can be run back to two sources: a species or near species with strong 'sweet' perfume such as 'pallida' and one with strong 'pungent' odor, as SAMBUCINA. These two types will be found in other groups, 'versicolor' having the "medium pungent" (or spicy) and 'graminea', the "sweet fruit" or plum fragrance. The type of perfume is certainly handed down with other heredity characteristics; for the grape perfume which, queer as it may seem, goes with deep red-purple flowers in Bearded Irises, can be traced back through the parentage of varieties descended from PACQUITA. Often perfume becomes very faint or disappears altogether as the line recedes from the originally fragrant plant and in much mixed heredity, it will change the character.

"Should two of these original species be crossed we would have, then, a third type of perfume caused by the combination of the two. All types of perfume can be either present in great strength, in a moderate amount or very slight. Anyone who studies perfumes knows that a very strong fragrance, even if on the "pleasant side" becomes disagreeable and, in reverse, that an infinitesmal amount of the "unpleasant side" may become really delicious. An example of this is the use of civet and musk in the perfume industry. So, a slighter or stronger degree of fragrance may appear to some as an entirely different type altogether, and it needs experience and aptitude to place them properly.

"There are a number of well-known perfumes and, by using them as headings and grading the combinations with pungent or sweet, I have essayed a simplified classification, using whatever material and notes have been available. It should be understood that personal taste as to whether a fragrance is pleasant or not is very varied; but I have tried o follow what a majority would approve. The pungent (SAMBUCINA) or unpleasant, is at the extreme of one side and the sweet ('pallida') or pleasant, at the other. The

groups caused by the probable combination of my two "species" is the centre, and I have coined for it the name SAMPAL. Thus there are twelve headings, five under pungent, five under sweet and two under sampal. In the placing of the types under the headings, I have tried to follow general 'quality' that in strength or delicacy might be used in the perfume industry to simulate the heading. Remember, that the more to the right you look, the lovelier the fragrance; the more to the left, the worse the odor! Many people cannot smell at all, and others are unable to differentiate between types of smells, odors, fragrances etc. and because of these fallibilities such as classification, based on experienced and unexperienced information, is merely tentative.

"There is an alphabetical list of the fragrance abbreviations in addition to the chart, and in the long list of Iris names, these abbreviations will come immediately after the fragrance symbol =. It is hoped that this chart in the future will be of aid to breeders so that they may get a proper clue as to how to classify their fragrances".

(left side) PUNGENT Sambucina				
Unpleasant	Elder	Condiment	Wax	Spicy
Pungent, pu. Unpleasant, u.	Birch and Birch beer, bi. Caraway, ca. Elder, el. May-apple, ma. Musk, mu. Poplar flower, pop. Sassafrass, sa. Wild grape, w. gr. Wintergreen, win.	Celery, ce. Dogwood flow ers, d.wd. Grape hyacinth gr. hya. Linden, li. Nasturtiam, na. Perennial, pea.	Spicy honey sp. ho. Wax, wa.	Cinnamon, ci. Nutmeg, n. Sandalwood, san. Spice, sp

(centre)	Sambucina X pallida		
Spicy-Sweet	Sweet-spicy		
Black Currant, blk. cur.	Almond, al.		
Cantelope or Muskmelon, Lemon, le.	can. Black Raspberry, blk. ra. Briar Rose, Br. r.		
Lemon-Orris, le. orr.	Carnation, car.		
Lemon Verbena, le. ve.	Jasmine, ja.		
Sweet Wax, sw. wa. Sweet William, sw. w.	New Mown Hay, n.m.h. Pansy, pa.		
Verbena, ve.	Wild Rose, w. r.		

SAMPAL

## SWEET pallida

(right side)

Honey	Fruit	Grape	Violet	Pleasant
Honey, ho.	Apple, ap.	Grape, gr.	Heliotrope, hel.	Pleasant, p.
Honeysuckle,	Apple Blossom	Sweet fruit	Lilac, lil	Sweet, sw.
ho	ap. bl.	sw. fr.	Lily, ly.	
Honeydew	Bayrum, bay r.	Peach, pe.	Orris, orr.	
melon, me.	Clover, cl.		Petunia, pet.	
Honey locust,	Fruit, fr.		Rose, r.	
lo.	Orange, or.		Sweet Pea, sw. p.	
Hyacinth, hya.	Plum, pl.		Tuberose, tu.	
Jonquil, jon.	Strawberry, sty.		Vanilla, va.	
Lily of the	Wine, wi.		Violet, vio.	
Valley,			Waterlily, wly.	
ly. val.				
Magnolia, ma.EP				

#### ABBREVIATIONS OF TYPES OF FRAGRANCES

sl Almo	ond	n N	
ар Арр	le	n.m.h N	lew Mown Hay
ap. bl App	le Blossom	or	)range
bay r Bayı	rum	orr	)rris
bi Bircl	n or Birch Beer	p P	leasant
blk. cur Blac	k Currant	pa P	ansy
blk. ra Blac	k Raspberry	pc P	each
br. r Bria	r Rose	per. p P	erennial Pea
ca Cara	away	pet P	etunia e
car Carr		plP	lum
can Can	telope or Muskmelon	рор Р	oplar flower
ce Cele	ery	pu P	ungent
ci Cinr	amon	r R	lose
cl Clov	er	sa	assafrass
d. wd Dog	wood	sl S	llight, faint
el Elde		sp S	
fr Fruit		sp. ho S	
gr Grap	pe	strS	trong
gr. hya Grap		sty S	trawberry
hel Helia		sw	weet
ho Hone	ey, Honeysuckle	sw. fr S	weet Fruit
hya Hyad		sw. p S	weet Pea
jaJasn	nine	sw. w S	weet William
jon Jone	quil	sw. wa S	weet Wax
le Lem		tu Ti	uberose
le. orrLem	on Orris	u U	Inpleasant

va. .... Vanilla le. ve. .... Lemon Verbena val. . . . . . . Valerian li. .... Linden ve. ..... Verbena lil. .... Lilac lo. . . . . . . Honey Locust vio. . . . . Violet wa. . . . . . . Wax ly. . . . . Lily w. gr. .... Wild Grape ly. val. . . . Lily of the Valley wi. ..... Wine ma. ..... Magnolia ma.ap. . . . May Apple win. ..... Wintergreen me. ..... Honeydew Melon wly. ..... Waterlily w.r.. ..... Wild Rose mu. ..... Musk na. ..... Nasturium

(the above is from the Iris Check List 1939 pages 12-15.)

Now, all the above information was very interesing; I was very glad to find it. I kept sniffing my iris garden faithfully, trying to identify some of my blooms as being of the above scents. My interest in fragrances was exaggerated because I had had a broken nose operation when I was 16 years old and never did realize I had lost almost all my sense of smell for I could still be aware of the strong scents. I loved being aware of what I could smell—marigolds, grass, new mown hay, freshly cut grass, shoe polishes, black stove polish for kitchen stoves, wet wool clothes—things that were familiar to my home. When I was a child we had few flowers that had scents that I could smell.

Those fragrant flowers I could smell, I loved passionately: Flowers like sweet peas, lilacs, lily of the valley, condiments like cinnamon, lemon flavoring for cooking, nutmeg, spices, vanilla, chocolate, and things we used around the house like shoe polish, stove polish, kerosene, fresh mown grass and hay, onions, Vicks Vap-o-rub—we had practically none of Mrs. Peckham's listed scents . . . few of the flowers, none of any of the trees. Those trees, shrubs, flowers, I believe, I never really saw anywhere. Later, after I was married, I made a habit of trading flowers and plants with my friends and neighbors, but I never smelled a jonguil or most other plants although my yard was full of them---they were my trading items. I never saw an iris plant until I was 35 when I saw five large gorgeous clumps in full bloom (they must have all been very fragrant, for I fell deeply in love with them). We lived in a town of 250 houses, and I found only 3 families besides myself who grew irises, but we visited each other's homes every day of iris bloomtime for several years, exchanging iris plants for I did not yet know that iris plants could be bought. After that, wherever we moved I took my irises, lilacs and fragrant flowewrs with me.

Finally, at age fifty I started on a vitamin program for my health. Before too long I suddenly realized wiith great surprise that nearly everything had a smell! Soon I realized that food could be not only delicious but could also SMELL delicious! Finally, I discovered it was the mineral vitamin ZINC that was the source of the introduction of scents into my life. A whole new world of fragrance was opened up for me!

Irises were always described as those trouble-free, sure-to-grow, no- attention-needed plats. I dreamed of eventually having a million of them.

I live in Williamsburg, Virginia, which is definitely NOT iris-growing country, and I couldn't find anyone to trade irises with. I joined the AIS, but there were no articles on fragrance in its bulletins. I joined the Robin Program but couldn't find anyone who definitely knew about fragrance. I wrote to many commercial iris growers, but they all answered that they knew some irises were fragrant, but they had no time to smell their irises. I was astounded!

I wrotoe to several Iris Society members asking for fragrance information and thus I finally I found Reuben Smith of Ohio, a former member of a Fragrance Robin, who had been keeping lists of iris fragrances from about 1915. He sent me all the fragrance information he had. Reuben was my basis for forming a new Fragrance Robin. He said the former Fragrance Robin had disbanded long ago and no ooe kept a list of the information or of the members. The next to answer my call in the AIS Bulletins was Katherine Wright of Indiana. She sent a list of fragrances and said that she thought that sniffing the irises once would be enough. Reuben and Katherine were wonderfully faithful assistants. Soon more persons responded, but they wanted only to receive information. We all agreed to smell as many irises at conventions, in our own gardens and at nearby commercial gardens as we could and send our lists around in the Robins. We eventually had four Fragrance Robins and a wealth of information. We agreed to report the fragrances of ALL named irises, regardless of the year of their introductions since there was such a long expanse of time when no iris fragrances had been reported since 1940.

Puzzling and incredible surprises appeared in our Robin letters. Many greatly different fragrances were reported for the same irises. Even my own listings had many different scents listed for the same names. We had all assumed that, like roses and other flowers, each iris variety had one scent all its own, and it was always present; therefore, we must be sniffing wrongly.

We listed the things that seemed to affect fragrances: Soil, humidity, temperature, the flower's genes, and others, but we found that the same stalks of irises could have different fragrances at different stages of growth—some would even start out sweet and in a day or two they might be unpleasant, or vice-versa. Some years nearly all seemed to have some scent—some years hardly any had scent. We were amazed that when a thunderstorm was approaching all irises seemed to have fragrance.

We found that most persons would report just "fragrant" or "sweet" with never an indication of just how strong or how slight the scent was. As for myself, I had no basis for comparing the odors I sniffed with all the specific fragrance names on Mrs. Peckham's list. Also, especially at conventions, we didn't have time to stop to consider any of the unfamiliar fragrances on her list. Therefore, our Robin members agreed on a numerical rating system—very quickly and easily used which would also give us a comparative rating of the

strength of each sniffing as well as the comparable fragrance itself. We then adopted the following system:

**Unpleasant Scents** 

- 1 = very slightly unpleasant scent
- 2 = medium strong unpleasant scent
- 3 = very strong unpleasant scent

Spicy Scents

- 4 = very slightly spicy scent
- 5 = medium strong spicy scent
- 6 = very strongly spicy scent

Sweet Scents

- 7 = very slightly sweet scent
- 8 = medium strong sweet scent
- 9 = very strongly sweet scent
- 99 = even stronger and sweet scent = truly wonderful scents
- 999 = so strong and sweet it flipped me = spreading perfume far and wide.
  - 0 = for those totally without scent.
  - F = For those reported to us as simply 'fragrant'.

We soon found that there was a particular scent that occurred in many many irises, we named it—

irisy – sweet

irisy – unpleassat.

We found that many of us wanted to have the strength

listed as being "+" = a bit more or as being "-" = a bit less.

We found many fragrances that suggested other names—not always of flowers. We gave them the name of the particular scent; always also giving them a "strength" number, too, as:

"Powdery = 8; soapy = 7; cold creams = 9; musty; fresh; warm; citrusy; green; licorice; camphor; varnish; boiled potatoes; earthy; chocolate; vanilla; lemony; baby-diaper; cat urine; muddy; lilac; peppermint; indefinite; marigolds; "like a man" (that astounded us . . . we found that it smelled like a man's smoking jacket); —or whatever it seemed to us to smell like. We finally compiled a list of several hundred distinguishable scents. One of my favorites is from one of my own seedlings which smells, powerfully, exactly like fresh Hershey chocolate.

Those that are detectable combinations, like honey-lemon; rose-valilla; spicy-pepperment.

We found, too, that noses were very unequal in ability to identify scents. Unfortunately, too many persons are born nose-numb; too many have only partial sense of smell; too many smoke cigarettes or cigars (or whose mates smoke). There are many, many medicines which will temporarily dull one's sense of smell. Also, some illnesses can completely alter the sense of smell

so that everything has an offensive odor.

Robin members found the "number" method wasn't very thrilling; giving names was far more interesting. We decided to use combinations of names and numbers whenever possible.

Upon investigation, I learned why fragrance information had been dropped many years ago from the American Iris Society's new Registration descriptions.

The January 1950 (?) AIS Bulletin carried an article by Mr. A. W. MacKenzie, of Albuquerque, New Mexico, containing the following poem:

Whose Nose Knows?
You can work it out by fractions
Or by simple rule of three
But the sense of smell of Tweedle-Dum
Is not that of Tweedle-Dee.

You can twist it, you can turn it, You can plait it till you drop But the sense of smell of Pilly-Wink Is not that of Winkie-Pop.

**Kipling** 

The editor's comment: "Mr. MacKenzie talks sense in an entertaining manner. Fortunately, others have had the same idea, and under the Society's new registration procedure elsewhere in this issue, breeder's are not required to guess at the fragrance of their new irises!"

That effectively ended, until recently with the inclusion of fragrance information in AIS Check Lists and other publications.

When I suggested to AIS officers that we reinstate the space for fragrance information on the form for new Registrations—not as a requirement, but voluntarily, it was done. They reinstated it, with the better descriptions of "sweet," "spicy," or "unpleasant" as suggested choices, but adding "strong" or "light" to indicate strength. Registrants may add descriptive scent names if they wish. This has found instant favor with many hybridizers who are now happy to have their flower's fragrance noticed. At last, fragrances are again being reported.

There is no way to make up for the lost information of the "lost" thirty years to assist those who would have liked to know of fragrance information or to help hybridizers who would like to have as a goal to create irises specifically for fragrances, but now we are on a sensible, calm and easy road to much helpful and delightful information. When everyone realizes that irises are probably the only flower that has such a wide variety of odors and such incredible variations in each flower's scent, this will add a world of interest to an already interesting and delightful flower. You realize you do not have to agree with anyone else's opinion of its scent—you feel free to say firmly that it smells like such-and-such to you, and like so-and-so to someone else. It will possibly smell different to everyone, but it will mostly have the same type of scent, as

'fragrant', 'spicy', or 'unpleasant.' What other flower can give you the excitement of comparing your opinion and your friends' opinions concerning the fragrance of its flowers? A new dimension, indeed.

To better organize the remarkable record of iris fragrances developed by the members of the American Iris Society's Fragrance Robins, I have compiled an alphabetical directory of more than 7000 registered named varieties indicating their fragrances as reported.

Any additional information will be welcomed by the present Director of AIS Fragance Robins, Libby A. Cross, Rt. 4, Box 399-M, Covington, Virginia 24426. (703) 747-2123, or directly by me, Louise Clay Smith, Iris Fragrance Gardens, 5013 Hickory Signpost Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185. (804) 229-3314.

#### Dr. Loomis Memorial Iris Trial Gardens

Mike Moller (Colorado)

The second year of the Loomis Garden was everything I had hoped it would be. Two year plants showed great growth and heavy bloom. These plants averaged 12 fans and bloom stalks. The first year plants had over 50% bloom compared to 20% on last year's irises. Over 200 non-iris people visited the gardens during our guided tours. Many more people visited every day, with stories to tell about the old Loomis garden and Dr. Loomis himself. I even found one tour member who was a teacher at the high school I attended in Omaha. The gardens put on a great show and I can't wait until next year.

The iris judging was very difficult. Instead of judging all irises on one day, we judged every iris as close to peak as possible. This meant fewer judges taking part, but each participant worked hard to judge every iris equally. You really get a new understanding of an iris when you point score several hundred. You learn that color is not the only quality in an iris. Good plant habits are rewrded in point scoring. I'm sure that our highest scored irises will grow well in any garden. The irises that we grow here are not pumped up with fertilizers or other magic concoctions.

Our point scoring was divided by class as well as one year and two year plants. A good quality iris would score 60 points with the scoring method we used. An example would be in the area of color for TB irises. In the scale of points for TB's, color, receives a possible 5 points for very good and a 5 point total for excellent color. Any iris scoring more than 60 points must have had some qualities in the very good to excellent category.

Our Loomis Award winner in the TB class was CONJURATION by Monty Byers with a score of 84. This iris had 15 fans, 6 Best Specimen of Show type stalks, an average of 9 buds per stalk, and was amazingly wind resistant, considering it was the tallest iris in the garden. In second place was another show stopper named CORAL COAST. This iris introduced by Chris Vizvarie. scored an 83. It had 17 fans, 6 bloom stalks, 8 buds, and very clean, colorful, and longlasting flowers. Another Monty Byers iris, CLASS ACT, with a score of 82, was our third place winner. Last year's number one iris, SPICED CIDER scored an 81 to tie with last year's number two iris, TENNISON RIDGE. EASTER LACE and RAINBOW TOUR tied for fifth place with a score of 79. EASTER LACE also has the distinction of being the highest scored iris of any iris that fall bloomed last year. Franklin Carr told me that he tries very hard to introduce only irises of very high quality. He proves this with the sixth place winner, LOVING THOUGHTS. Seventh place was represented by three irises: BANANA MARGARITA by Tom Magee, MAGIC SONG by former AIS President Hal Stahly, and TROPICAL FRUIT by Paul Black. BANANA MARGARITA inherited the outstanding show branching of its parent, COLORADO SUN-SHINE.

Eighth place with a score of 75 was THORNBIRD by Monty Byers. This iris scored a 10 in Distinctiveness for its unusual brown-black horns. With a score of 74, we had three irises: ACOMA, Tom Magee's 1990 introduction, MAUVELOUS by Monty Byers, and 84-UF9 by John Knudtson. John also had another seedling 84-10-0, score 73 points, along with Hal Staly's 87-5, and CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE by Dave Niswonger. At 72 points, John Knudtson had a seedling, 84-14-S, that had 17 fans and 9 bloom stalks. Frank Rogers also scored a 72 with SUMMER WHITE.

Tied for twelfth place with 71 points were CAPE HORN and EGYPTIAN by Monty Byers, F-510-B by F. Rodgers, and a second entry of MAGIC SONG by Stahly. Seven irises scored 70 points. Carl Jorgensen's pink amoena seedling 1-P12-1, M. Moller's seedling 82-C-1, Steinhauer's seedling 85-13, SCORPIO and POTION by Byers, Dave Niswonger's popular ORANGE SLICES, and WILD OATS by Jack Durrance.

The two year BB class was topped by PEACH PETALS (77 pts.) of Dave Niswonger. This iris had 16 fans and 13 bloom stalks. A Paul Black seedling, 8490C was second with 70 points. Third place was 80-C-1 (69 pts.) with 30 fans and 10 bloom stalks, by Mike Moller.

The two year MTB class had one entry, LADY EMMA (57 pts.). This iris did not score as well as some irises when it comes to flower and branch, but it had 40 + fans and 15 bloom stalks. This iris has fall bloomed for two years and last year it bloomed from August until November. This is a great rebloomer for our climate.

The two year IB class was headed by GOLDEN MUFFIN (78 pts.) by Dave Niswonger. OBLIGATO (75 pts.) by Hal Stalhy was second.

The two year SDB class was topped by SPLASH OF RED (81 pts.). This iris by Dave Niswonger won a Loomis Award for being the Best Median of the two

year plants. Two other Niswonger irises, RUBY LOCKET (71 pts.) and CAS-PER'S SHADOW (70 pts.) finished second and third.

The one year TB's had only four irises score above 70 points. The highest score was a 78 for JAZZEBEL by Allan Esminger. This iris had 4 fns, 1 bloom stalk, and 10 buds. Second place went to our RVP David Miller for ORANGE JEWELIUS. This orange iris was one of only 3 one year plants to have 2 bloom stalks. It also supported 10 buds. Third place was FORT BRAGG by Denny/McWhirter another 10 bud delight. Fourth place was TRAX by Mary Dunn. This iris has an unusual color combination and also had 10 buds. Other high scoring irises were, BLOWTORCH, FANCY FACE, PUNKIN PATCH, TARGET, ICE FESTIVAL, SIGHS & WHISPERS, TRUST, LARCENIST, GOING PLACES, HALO IN ORANGE, JUNGLE PRINCESS, and SHOPPER'S HOLIDAY. One other TB we should note is V46 SEPT by Lloyd Zurbrigg. This iris had one small bloom stalk in June but was the only fall bloomer this year, with 3 very nice bloomstalks.

Our one year BB class was topped with three Esminger irises: ZINK PINK (73 pts.), SONJA'S SELAH (65 pts.), and BATIK (62 pts.). Fourth place went to Ray Lyons for ARTESIAN LADY (60 pts.).

The one year IB class had two Esminger irises at the top: MORNING SHOW (74 pts.) a nice red, and JOHN (73 pts.) with a different yellow/brown combination. HOT SPICE (70 pts.) by Terry Aitken was third.

SASS WITH CLASS (80 pts.) was the best of the one year SDB class. This SDB had 8 bloom stalks and 18 fans in its first year! Second place was CAR HOP (71 pts.) giving Paul Black the top two irises in this class.

It looks as if we are getting good response from hybridizers about this test garden. Besides the bearded classes that I mentioned, we are starting to attract interest from other iris classes. This spring I received some Japanese and Siberian irises from Anna Mae Miller to test in the garden. Mary Dunn has entered some Louisiannas and Dave Niswonger has introduced some Spurias to the garden. Most hybridizers who have sent irises in the past are continuing to send new varieties. We have also received irises from some hybridizers who are new to the garden. The irises in the garden this year really mirrored the irises at this years National AIS Convention.

We have 27 beds of irises now which will give a good display of one year, two year and three year plants. Any hybridizer may participate in the 3 year trial period of this garden. We point score every iris in the garden and send all hybridizers a report of all irises showing exactly how they were point scored. We also try to list number of fans, bloomstalks, and bud count. If a judge makes a comment about the iris, we will include the comment. You may send registered or seedling irises. July is the best time of the year to submit bearded irises. Mail iris to:

Mike Moller 3455 Vallejo Court Colorado Springs, CO 80918 TELE 719-598-2024 For any of you iris lovers who happen to also use computers, I can be contacted through Prodigy Online Services. My Prodigy address is NDBD44A. This is a great way for people to start an online iris robin.

The Elmohr Iris Society has video taped the Loomis Memorial Trial Garden for your viewing pleasure. We will send out copies to all RVPs this spring. Get with your local RVP and we hope you enjoy our garden. If you're in the Colorado Springs area, medians start bloom in May and TB season is the first two weeks in June. We also have a display of species irises donated by the Denver Botanic Gardens and a Display of Historic Irises before 1900, donated by the Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS). Give me a call, I'll walk the garden with you. If you're an AIS judge you can try your hand at point scoring the irises. We never have enough help in this area!

#### **AIS Dues Will Increase in 1992**

At the meeting during the recent convention, the AIS Board of Directors agreed to an increase in dues which will be effective on January 1, 1992. Membership Secretary Marilyn Harlow will mail dues notices in mid-November which will show the new rates. However, the Board voted to accept dues paid at the old rates for every payment that is received by December 31, 1991. The new dues structure is as follows:

Single Annual
Single Trienniel\$30.00
Dual Annual
Dual Trienniel
Single Life\$250.00
Dual Life
Youth (Without Bulletin)\$3.00
Youth (With Bulletin)\$4.50
*Single Annual (Overseas)
*Single Trienniel (Overseas)\$37.50
*Dual Annual (Overseas)
*Dual Trienniel (Overseas)\$45.00
*Includes First Class postage.

#### Let's Talk Favorites

Dale D. Satterwhite (Oklahoma)

What is a favorite iris? First of all, Webster says that a favorite (noun) is "a person or thing regarded with special favor, preference, or affection; one unduly favored; the competitor most likely to win." (adjective) "Regarded with particular affection or preference."

I'll go along with the favor, preference, and affection part, but I'm not sure if all my favorite irises would be the competitors most likely to win. And I'm not sure some of yours would either, except with you. . . . So, let's do it this way. I grow over 600 varieties of irises including Louisianas, Medians, and Talls, and even though I prefer the Tall Bearded, I must say, that to be honest, I would have to include a couple of Louisianas and some Medians on my favorite list.

And how do I pick my favorites? To my knowledge, I have no real preference in color or pattern, so I go by the overall iris plant which would include performance, substance, color, and pattern. To make my favorite list, the iris must bloom at least two seasons in my garden—preferably three. This can sometimes be a problem here in northeastern Oklahoma due to our erratic spring seasons which often include late freezes that can rob the plant of its bloom for the year. This is no fault of the variety.

Once an iris makes my "favorite" list, it is pretty hard to get bumped off. It seems that my list keeps getting longer and longer, rather than replacements being made, and so, up to the 1991 bloom season, and including only some of the newer varieties, here they are—to date, there are three Louisiana irises on my list. CLARA GOULA (Arny 1978) Yes, I know she is not new, but this big beautiful white is what got me started with the species, and it will always be a favorite. JERI (Bertinot 1985) is a traffic stopper in dark grape-violet velvet. The third is KOORAWATHA (Taylor 1987), a short but beautiful golden yellow from Australia.

Over 150 varieties of medians are in my garden at this time. CHUBBY CHEEKS (Black 1985) and ROYAL SPARKS (Gaddie 1984) are two SDB's that will retain a place in the patch. Both are very dependable and showy. Two MTB's that I look forward to each season are CONSUMATION (Welch 1978) and BUMBLEBEE DEELITE (Norrick 1986). Once again, an old one stays on top. I think the greatest all around IB is RARE EDITION (Gatty 1980). Joe has given us an outstanding purple on white plic that would grow and bloom if you laid it in the street, and it would stop traffic there as it does in the garden. I have lots of nice BB's in my garden, and it is tough to select a few that I can say are favorites over others, but CLASSIC TREASURE (Burger 1984), a ruffled stark white with an orchid-blue border on the falls, and SOFT SPOKEN (Dyer 1980) a great little pink, that is a winner in the garden and on the show bench, are two borders that will stay on the list.

Now when we start talking about the tall bearded, my "favorite list" could go on and on, but I will limit it here to some of the "newer favorites." I think to date,

HONKY TONK BLUES (Schreiner 1988) has to be the "pick-of-the-litter" in talls, in or out of my garden. This medium to light blue blend has to lead the list. The rest of the tall favorites are alphabetical.

ANNA BELLE BABSON (Hager 1985) is a medium peach-pink with just a touch of a white blaze under the beard, and is great.

ANN BLOCHER (Blocher 1990) was guested in my garden prior to introduction and is a beautiful pristine white with just the right amount of ruffles and lace.

AZTEC TREASURE (Miller 1984) is a dusted golden yellow. No not dusted, but the falls are washed with a bit of subdued red, leaving a bit of a rim or edging of golden yellow around the falls.

ALPINE JOURNEY (Blyth 1984) with bright yellow falls and sparkling white standards is, I believe, the best yellow amoena.

CAFE SOCIETY (Ghio 1985) is a bright and beautiful and branched golden honey-tan blend.

CANDELERO (Corlew 1984), a soft lemon yellow with lots of ruffles, is one of the best in its color class and a great performer. A true favorite.

CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE (Niswonger 1987), I think, is one of Dave's best. At a distance, it is a soft peach amoena with creamy white standards, but on close examination of this diamond dusted beauty, you can see all sorts of colors in the falls.

DUSKY CHALLENGER (Schreiner 1986) is big, beautiful and blue-black. A must if you like the "Blacks" or big beautiful irises.

EVERYTHING PLUS (Niswonger 1984) is another great iris from Dave's garden. Light blue standards with a medium purple plic pattern on white falls makes this iris just what the name implies.

EXTRAVAGANT (Hamblen 1982) is medium cranberry-rose with a blended white blaze beneath an orangy-red beard. Melba can be proud of this ruffled beauty.

MOMENTUM (Dunn 1986) with pale red-violet standards on white falls with a darker red-violet plic edging is one of Mary's best and one of the best plics that I have bloomed.

PLANNED TREASURE (Burger 1985) is one to watch. Its pink standards and white falls that are washed orchid and banded make it a beauty that is bound to go places.

PRECIOUS MOMENTS (Gatty 1983) is a soft yellow to white blend, or possibly a reverse amoena, with soft yellow standards on white falls. One of Joe's best, and one of my top favorites for many years now.

RUSTLER (Keppel 1988) If you like an iris to grab you from a distance as you enter the garden; if you like bright, clear, rusty golden brown color blend; if you like flare, ruffles, and branching; if you like one of the best in its color class—here 'tis. . . .

SILVERADO (Schreiner 1987) the best blue-white that I grow or have seen. At times, due to its substance, the stalks and blooms almost look artificial. A very nice iris whose color can be darkened by mineral content in the soil.

SILKWOOD (Hamblen 1984) an off white with a pale blush of lavender throughout, and with a big, bold rusty red beard. Not an outstanding iris at a distance, but a real charmer up close, and a good reliable garden iris that can make the show table anytime.

SYNCOPATION (Gatty 1983) bright golden standards on red-wine falls with a blush of lavender at times in the center of the falls. The falls have a bit of a bronze band around the edges. Standards are blushed with a bit of bronze. Good clear, clean color throughout, and a good performer.

TIDES IN (Schreiner 1983) this light blue, in fact a very light blue that is completely diamond dusted, is my favorite in its color class. It has lots of ruffles and is tall and classy.

Yes, I could go on and on, including a lot of "oldies" (Pre 1980) that are just as great as some on this list, but this pretty well indicates my favorites in the newer ones for now. What will it be next season???

#### **YOUTH VIEWS**

#### 1991 Youth Achievement Awards

Catherine Long Gates

Congratulations to Sue Copeland of Mattawan, Michigan, the winner of this year's Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement. Sue joined AIS in 1976 at the ripe old age of 4. She received her first recognition in this Bulletin when she was pictured in front of her own iris bed at her family's garden during the 1976 Michigan convention. Sue has maintained and expanded that garden over the years, growing mainly bearded irises.

Several members of Region 6 sent in nominations for Sue, and they expressed some common themes. Foremost was Sue's willingness to help with iris activities and to do so in a very cheerful manner. Sue has been very active with the Southwestern Michigan Iris Society. At age 5 she started filling bottles for shows, and as age and ability allowed, she took on many other tasks working her way up to serving as overall chairman of the Japanese iris show in 1990. She has also been active with the Iris Connoisseurs of Michigan, Region 6, and has attended several AIS conventions. Sue became an accredited AIS garden judge in 1989 after completing her apprentice requirements in one year. She has carried out some genetic experiments with iris on her own and is now enrolled in a special program at Michigan State University. Sue's interest in genetics combined with her writing talents helped her capture the top prize in 1989 in the Ackerman Youth Essay Contest sponsored through the AIS Foundation. Sue has just recently joined the ranks of the adult membership and we trust her achievements will continue to grow.

The first runner-up in this year's contest is 16 year old Shelly Moller from Colorado Springs. Shelly has been active in the Elmohr Iris Society as well as Region 20. Shelly has assisted in maintailing a database for the hundreds of plants sent by hybridizers to the Elmohr Iris Society's High Altitude Test Garden. She served as the editor of the Elmohr Iris Society Youth Group newsletter and with fellow youth members participated in an iris video used as an educational exhibit. Shelly has been quite successful in show competition in both horticultural and artistic divisions and has even won a best arrangement award in the adult section. She has also served as a clerk at shows and helped with preparation, set-up, and clean-up at sales.

Michael McCarthy of Lakewood, Colorado is the second runner-up. Mike has been a member of AIS since 1983 and has always been a willing helper at Region 20 activities. He gained knowledge by clerking at several shows and attending judges training for several years so that, when he became an apprentice, he attained his garden judge status with relative ease. At age 16 Mike has numerous show awards in the youth category to his credit as well as an overall Best Specimen of Show at the region show. A frequent participant in region tours and visitor to area gardens, Mike also maintains an iris garden at home.

This year's winners, like those who have preceded them, possess some very "winning" qualities - willingness to help and learn, desire and ability to instill in others the love of irises, and the general good nature that makes anyone a welcome part of a group. Through these attributes they have achieved on an individual level, but more importantly their achievements have benefitted us all.

### Maybe You Wanted to Know

Ronald Mullin (Oklahoma)

Over the years, I've been asked several questions regarding how the AIS operates. I do not know all the answers, but some of the questions are answered here to the best of my ability. As a teacher, I know that one needs to ask questions when he or she is curious, and the one who is asked should supply the answers when they are known or give a source where the answers can be found. Always feel free to ask questions about The American Iris Society and its operation. Someone will know the answer. Anyone who serves as RVP, has aspirations to become an officer of the AIS, or who simply wants to know what's what should read the policy books available, read the minutes of the Board meetings, and seek background information on why a particular rule is in effect.

One of the things that has become apparent is that many do not know that all the people who are seated around the table at the Board meetings are not voting members. The twelve elected directors, the president, secretary, treasurer, editor, and immediate past president may vote. Under other rare circumstances, some other person could be qualified to vote, but such an event has not happened before, so it does not have anything to do with this article.

Salaried personnel are not permitted to vote. The editor, if he or she is salaried, may not vote. The current editor is not a voting member of the Board. The other two salaried employees—the membership secretary and the registrar-advertising editor—are not voting members even when they are not salaried.

The president does not vote except to break ties or in the case of a written ballot. As with all corporations, the members of the Board are in charge of operating the society under the direction of the president. Because of this obligation, those who have a vote are expected to attend meetings twice each year.

Administrative officers such as the registrar, membership secretary, recording secretary, and publication sales director need to be present at meetings if possible, but they do not vote unless they also serve as an elected director. Since they do not vote, their presence is not mandatory but certainly important. These are usually the people who deal most directly with the members of the society, and they are among the first to know when something needs to be brought to the attention of the Board.

Chairmen of the standing committees generally attend Board meetings, but they are not required to be present. Reports may be made in written form which allows these people to serve without the expense of attending meetings. Again, their presence is very important, but it is not mandatory for every meeting.

Beginning with Clarke Cosgrove's term as president, Board meetings were opened to the membership at large. Before that time, the business of the society was conducted pretty much in private Board meetings—not exactly

closed, but attendance was restricted. A part of the new policy under Dr. Cosgrove was the formation of the Personnel Committee. This new committee was charged with selecting the nominees to fill positions on the Board. The committee consists of two RVPs, two directors, and one of the section presidents. All these people are selected by the groups they represent. One of the changes was that the RVPs were welcomed to the Board meetings. At first, the RVP in whose region a meeting of the directors was held was to make a report to the other RVPs on the actions taken at the meeting. As more and more RVPs attended the meetings and advance copies of the minutes became available to the RVPs, these reports become unneeded. The RVPs were able to see the operation of the AIS firsthand and to gain insight into how various proposals would affect their particular regions. At the same time, it was possible to see how a proposal might create a hardship in another region. Although RVPs are not required to attend the meetings, they are always welcome. Since some regions now provide RVPs with some travel expense money, many use that money to pay expenses of attending Board meetings.

What are the costs of serving as a director? Of course, no definite figure can be given because costs depend on distance traveled, method of travel, and personal employment problems which might necessitate forfeiting salary to attend a meeting. Directors must spend at least two nights in a hotel at the Fall meeting and pay plane fare to the site. While most would probably attend the Spring meeting anyway, serving on the Board usually requires arrival two days early, meaning extra hotel costs. In the mid 70's, it was considered wise to count on spending approximately \$1000. per year for the costs of serving as a director. With the increase in cost of nearly everything, this is probably conservative for today.

What are the points considered in the selection of directors? One of the first priorities is that a potential director has shown ability to serve as a leader in some capacity. The RVPs who have completed terms are among the most likely selections because they have become aware of the rules regarding judges, fluctuating membership, publishing newsletters, of finding regional officers who are reliable, have learned to deal with the multiple problems that arise when dealing with the members, and have had the opportunity to see that what appears to be a great thing in one region is not going to work so well in another thereby making it unacceptable as an AIS guideline.

Another consideration is geographic location. An attempt is made to have as many areas represented as possible. The Personnel Committee uses this as one of the methods of choosing nominees. Generally, when two candidates are equally qualified, one will be chosen because he or she resides in an area which is not currently represented on the Board.

At times a new director may be chosen from an area that is already represented on the Board. Often, this is done because the nominee fills a particular need that exists on the Board or will exist in the immediate future. An example would be the naming of a director who has a thorough knowledge of a particular committee's work and has shown an ability to handle the most

difficult of situations regarding that field. If the current director in charge of that committee is about to finish his or her term on the Board, then this extremely well qualified person might be chosen despite the fact that a region would then have two representatives.

Another prime area of consideration is willingness to serve. No one knows the personal situation of any nominee. Perhaps that person has family illness, lacks the income to manage a household and still make trips to Board meetings, or simply does not have a salary great enough to afford the trips. For whatever reason, some people do not want to be on the Board. Many people have been asked, but they have declined to serve for some of these reasons and others. Most people who are dedicated to working for the promotion of the AIS find it difficult to turn down the opportunity to serve because the idea of being on the Board is enticing. However, before accepting, one should always carefully consider the costs in time and money that will be required.

How long does a director serve? A director is elected for a three-year term, and he or she may serve three such terms. The only persons who might be on the Board longer than nine years would be those, such as the president, who have been elected to a position in which a vote on the Board is allowed. In that case he or she might have a vote for more than nine years, but the term as an elected director ends after nine years.

After a person has finished his or her nine-year tenure on the Board, it is possible that he or she might be selected to serve on the Board again, but there must be a period of time between the two terms.

How long does an officer serve? Each officer is elected by the Board of Directors to serve for one year. All must be re-elected at the annual business meeting each Fall. The president may serve a maximum of three years in that capacity in any one term, but no limit is placed on the term of the other officers. Former presidents are allowed to serve another term as did Mr. Marion Walker, but again, the two terms may not be in succession.

How is the money spent? Operating the AIS is costly with the Bulletin being the major item on each year's budget. Four salaries are paid each year: to the membership secretary (Marilyn Harlow), to the advertising editor, to the registrar (both jobs done by Kay Nelson), and to the editor (Ronald Mullin). None of these salaries is enough for the employee to use as a sole source of income.

At the present time, officers, directors, and committee chairs submit operational expenses (accompanied by receipts) to the secretary for reimbursement. This has not always been done because the AIS was not sound financially. Officers, directors, and committee chairmen usually paid the cost of postage, printing, and other expenses themselves, without reimbursement. Some committees did have a budget for such expenses, but they often weren't used by the person serving as the chairman. It was the personal sacrifices of these people that partially enabled the AIS to become financially able to provide the services available today. Many of the present directors

were already involved in AIS work during that time, either on the Board or as RVPs who were attending Board meetings regularly. Perhaps it is remembering those days of financial difficulty that makes the directors sometimes seem reluctant to spend money. They know it is very difficult to take away a service once it has been provided, so they are reluctant to authorize major expenditures without careful thought. Some might say even minor expenses fall into that category. Persons attending the meetings of the Board of Directors often complain because not enough copies of a particular report are available for everyone in attendance. Consider that this report may have been printed at the expense of the person preparing it. Consider that it is impossible to know how many copies to prepare. Consider that it is not easy to bring a big stack of papers to a convention or meeting. Copies will always be provided if they are requested, but it is better to have too few copies than to have wasted money by having too many copies.

Mentioning the sacrifices of the past workers does not indicate that today's workers do not also make sacrifices for the good of the AIS. In the past, money was often not available for the expenses. Today, it generally is available, but that doesn't mean personal sacrifice has gone out the window.

Who should be contacted with questions? The first person to contact is the RVP, especially with region questions. The next source of information is the person listed in the front of the Bulletin as the officer or chairman under whose assignment the question falls. One major exception to that is regarding the missing Bulletins. Such questions are to go to the secretary (Jeane Stayer), not to the Bulletin editor.

Directors and officers are always happy to help with questions. It must be remembered, however, that most have jobs which provide them with their livelihood. Those jobs must come first, so a response cannot always be given immediately, AND the answer is not always known by the person being questioned until there has been time for some research. Remember too, the director has a certain obligation to others. It is not the policy of the directors to undermine an RVP or any other AIS worker. Do not expect the director to destroy the integrity of the RVP or other worker by siding with you against that person. Directors may realize that the person whose work is being questioned is not acting in the best interests of himself or the society, but it is better to handle the problem by personal contact. Few people ever deliberately do things that will hurt the organization. Something that appears of major importance or of major detriment can usually be worked out satisfactorily without hurting the reputation or feelings of the person responsible.

No question is ever too insignificant to be asked if it is something you want to know. Someone knows the answer, and if the answer isn't known, maybe your question is something that needs to be answered by a policy study.

#### **Favorite Guest Irises at Omaha**

No. Votes, Variety, Year Introduced, Type and Hybridizer

- 164 Rustler '88, TB, Keith Keppel
- 133 In Town '88, TB, Barry Blyth
- 130 Raspberry Fudge '89, TB, Keith Keppel
- 125 Morning Show '88, IB, Allan Ensminger
- 100 Lenora Pearl '90, BB, Hooker Nichols
- 87 Miss Nellie '83, BB, Jimmy Burch
- 86 Champagne Elegance '87, TB, Dave Niswonger
- 85 Frizzy Lizzy '89, BB, John Weiler
- 84 Batik '86, BB, Allan Ensminger
- 83 Az Ap '80, IB, Allan Ensminger
- 83 Jitterbug '83, TB, Keith Keppel
- 77 Memoirs '88, TB, Joseph Ghio
- 67 My Shadow '90, TB, Tom Magee
- 62 Maui Moonlight '87, IB, Terry Aitken
- 61 Magic Kingdom '89, TB, Monty Byers
- 59 Stellar Lights '86, TB, Terry Aitken
- 55 Katy Lynn '86, TB, Evelyn Kegerise
- 54 Cranberry Crush '86, TB, Terry Aitken
- 54 Gyro '89, TB, Terry Aitken
- 54 Pistol '83, TB, Chuck Claussen
- 53 Gentle Dragon '88, TB, Lynda Miller
- 53 Mary Ellen Nichols '90, TB, Hooker Nichols
- 51 Blue Eyed Blonde '90, IB, Allan Ensminger
- 49 Latin Hideaway '86, TB, Hooker Nichols
- 47 Glitz 'n Glitter '88, TB, Paul Black
- 46 Raven Rock '87, TB, Franklin Carr
- 44 Top Gun '88, TB, Larry Gaulter
- 43 Codicil '85, TB, Sterling Innerst
- 43 Into the Night '89, TB, Schreiners
- 43 Maria Tormena '87, TB, Allan Ensminger
- 42 Acoma '90, TB, Tom Magee
- 42 Fringe Benefits '88, TB, Ben Hager

Note: 420 people voted for 584 varieties

#### How To Register and Introduce an Iris

These instructions apply to the registration of all classes of irises except bulbous irises.

#### REGISTRATION

- 1. Write to the AIS Registrar Kay Nelson, P.O. Box 37613, Omaha, Nebraska 68137, for a registration blank, enclosing a check for the registration fee payable to the American Iris Society. Registration fee is \$5.00 for each iris; for each transfer of a name from one iris to another the fee is \$7.50.
- 2. Select a name that has not been previously registered, which may be submitted for approval when you write for the registration blank. You will save time for yourself and for the Registrar if you will first look in the AIS Check Lists and the annual reports of the Registrar since 1979 to see if the name you have chosen has been registered previously. Please also suggest an alternate name. The Registrar will hold an approved name for a short time to enable you to complete the blank and send it back to her, but a name is not registered until the registration blank is filed and approved by the Registrar. A registration certificate then will be sent to you.
- 3. Names should follow the rules established by the International Horticultural Code, and the following names shall not be admissible:
  - a. Names of living persons without the written permission of that person.
  - b. Names of persons including forms of address (that is, JANE DOE, not MRS. JANE DOE).
  - c. Names including numerals or symbols.
  - d. Names beginning with the article "a" and "the" or their equivalent in other languages unless required by linguistic custom.
  - e. Abbreviations unless required by linguistic custom.
  - f. Latin names or Latinized forms. However, the AIS custom of using part of the Latin names of a species, namely the specific epithet, as part of the cultivar name when this seems appropriate (e.g. SUSIMAC, from *I. susiana* X IB-MAC), shall be continued.
  - g. Use of trademark or copyrighted names unless previously in common use.
  - h. A slight variation of a previously registered name.
  - i. Names containing more than three words.
  - Names that exaggerate or may become inaccurate (e.g. HEAVIEST LACE, TALLEST BLACK).
- 4. Previously registered names may be re-used provided (a) the original registration has not been introduced or distributed by name, (b) does not appear by name in later parentage registrations, and (c) the new registrant furnishes the Registrar with written statement of permission from the previous registrant.
- 5. Names will not be released as obsolete unless there is proof that no stock now exists and that the iris was never used as a parent.

#### INTRODUCTIONS

An introduction is an offering for sale to the public. Catalogs, printed lists, and advertisements in the American Iris Society *Bulletin* are acceptable mediums of introduction. It is a requisite for the awards of the Society above that of High Commendation. *An iris is not eligible for these awards until two years after its introduction has been recorded with the Registrar.* Send Ms. Nelson a copy of the catalog, list or advertisement and she will acknowledge the fact that the introduction has been recorded. (For irises introduced in the AIS BULLETIN, notify her of the BULLETIN number and page on which the introductory advertisement appears.)

#### RANCHO DE LA FLOR DE LIS

P.O. BOX 227 CER	RILLOS, N.M. 87010	
1991 INTRODUCTIONS		
BIG IDEAS (Anaya/Wells) M 40" (Leda's Love	-	
Extra large ruffled bright yellow EL DORADO'S GOLD (Anaya/Wells) EM 36		
Gold) Brassy gold standards, falls washed light		
KEEKA DO (Anaya) ML 28" (Muted Melody X G	arnet Sport) Lilac with	
deep lavender blaze	\$15.00	
LADY WINIFRED BEARDSLEY (L. Anay		
Provocative X Crowd Pleaser. Hot pink standa raspberry striped on hafts.		
SANTA FE STYLE (Anaya/Wells) ML 38" (Ang		
coming Queen) X Samarii Warrior. Deep copviolet infusion.	•	
1990 INTRODUCTIONS		
AAH SO GLORIOSO (Charles Zurek) ML 36" V	Vhite standards, grape	
purple falls edged white	\$22.50	
GEE BETTY G (Dorothy Steele) EM 32" Warm	white standards, pink	
falls	\$22.50	
<b>MANDARIN CHOCOLATE</b> (D. Steele) M 34" C brown falls, red beards		
MARTHA SMITH (L. Anaya) E 30" Arilbred W	hite standards, yellow	
falls, purple signal	\$22.50	
<b>OMAMORI</b> (Mary Ann Zurek) ML 36" Lavender stalls edged lavender.		
1989 INTRODUCTIONS		
ELLEN GRIFFIN (Anaya/Wells) EM 38" Pe		
blended ivory peach falls, red beards	\$12.50	
<b>TANGELOPE</b> (D. Steele) E 34" Cantaloupe sta falls, red beards	, -	
VICTORIAN VELVET (Anaya/Wells) M 38" Dee	ep orchid, red beards.	
	_	
1988 INTRODUCTIONS		
FASHION FANCY (D. Steele) EM 34" True brig	ht pink \$10.00	
SWEET MOMENT (D. Steele) ML 36" Peach pi	nk and cream. \$10.00	
Catalog \$1.00		

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One-half page \$ 56.00

Full page, color \$200.00 plus color separations
Cover ads \$200.00 plus color separations

All advertising copy and photographs, except color which requires individual arrangements, must be received by the Advertising Editor by April 15 (July Issue), July 15 (October Issue), October 15 (January Issue) and January 15 (April Issue).

Send advertising copy and check payable to The American Iris Society to:

Ms. Kay Nelson, Advertising Editor

P.O. Box 37613 Omaha, NE 68137

#### The 1991 Season—Marvelous

Ronald Mullin (Oklahoma)

In recent years, the weather has taken its toll on iris seasons in Oklahoma and in some other areas. In 1987, we had a terrible season, in 1988 I was too busy to notice since we had the convention that year, 1989 and 1990 were the pits; and it appeared that 1991 was headed in the same direction when it warmed up early and did not rain. For several years we have had early warmth followed by devastating cold, but this year the cold didn't come. Normally, we get sufficient rainfall in March to get things off to a good start, but this year the rain clouds were everywhere but Pawnee. Out came the hoses, and this led to even healthier weeds and grasses which were already growing faster than I could get them out of the beds. But all's well that ends well, and the 1991 season has been great.

Every year I decide that I simply don't have enough room and something has to go. Every year I decide that what must go is the planting of SDBs. And, every year they perform so well that I decide I can't part with any of them—even the old ones. Two of the very best ones were among the first to open this year, SIGH (Black) and AZURE GEM (Hamblen). Although Paul describes SIGH as white, it has other colors as it blooms in my garden. It would, in any color, be fantastic because of its form, bud count, durability, substance, and quality over-all. It was the best SDB I've ever grown as it bloomed this year. AZURE GEN has long been a favorite, and it never fails to please while it is in bloom. The beautifully ruffled pale blue flowers are set off with blue beards, and the form is impeccable. The only problem is that it blooms so heavily that I worry about having anything left. So far, I always have had.

SERENITY PRAYER (P. Dyer) was so bright and pretty that it couldn't be ignored. With warm white stands and falls the same with yellow appearing at the hafts and set off by a bright violet beard, this one was a real eyecatcher. And, it kept blooming and blooming. Great substance allowed it to last even through the worst weather we had. FORTE (Black) has orchid stands and black cherry falls which is enough to make it a focal point in the garden. Great form and long lasting. DARK VADER (L. Miller) continues to impress with its dark violet petals set off by a pale orchid beard. Again, it gave the impression of a black with a white beard from a distance.

When non-irisarians constantly point out a variety in the garden, it usually means that iris has something special going for it. This year, WAKE UP (Black) was that iris. To begin with, it was a good-sized clump and it was a mass of brilliant yellow flowers. Paul's catalog says "stunning clumps," and he doesn't exaggerate when he says this. STARLIGHT WALTZ (Helsley) is always a beautiful sight with its white and yellow, ruffled flowers of great form. It isn't flashy, but for an iris addict, it spells quality. WELL SUITED (Black) is a two-toned dark violet which is very reminiscent of the tall bearded variety DRESS

SUIT. This little one features ruffling, form, and substance along with a high bud count and strong growth.

Pink SDBs were once narrow, wimpy little things that had little life to them. But times have changed. BROAD GRIN (Lankow) is a pink blend with good color, good form, and fine performance. PINK CRYSTAL (Willott) is a pale, pale pink that is quite nice in the garden. SHEER CLASS (L. Miller) is a bright bitone pink that attracts attention and deservedly so.

ORANGE TIGER (B. Jones) is a fiery orange that is a great improvement in this color class and one that is bound to be popular everywhere. The much praised CHUBBY CHEEKS (Black) gave a fine performance with its chubby rounded form, but I predict that its children will soon replace it in the limelight because so many of them are already very much in evidence.

In 1980 when the weather held the tall bearded bloom back until the day after our convention, I was saved from total embarrassment by the excellent performance of the IBs. Since that time I've taken the time to really notice them, and they just may be my most favorite class when I'm honest about what they require and what they give in return. They aren't as affected by erratic weather, and they just happen to be the class that has the iris that I consider the finest performer any time, anywhere. What is this wonderful iris? See the cover of this Bulletin and the articles by Dorothy Willott, Hooker Nichols, and Bennett Jones and you'll see it listed. RARE EDITION (Gatty) is a rare edition indeed. It has not failed to give an outstanding performance every year despite what other irises were doing. It is like a flight of butterflies in its airy beauty, and a clump is simply overwhelming. Clean white is precisely edged in what is generally called mulberry. It is the one iris that I would recommend to anyone. I voted for it for the Dykes Medal, and I'm one of those who was hard to convince that a tall bearded shouldn't win the Dykes each time. TULARE (Hamblen) is a BB and the oldest variety in my garden because I've kept it for its excellence. Years from now, RARE EDITION will still have a spot of importance. It is fantastic!

Ben Hager introduced two fine IBs about the same time, but they were in different colors of plicata. BUTTER PECAN is bright yellow and brown and is just great. I cannot fault this lovely iris. HOT FUDGE is cream ground with bold reddish brown markings. Since I lean to pastels, I prefer BUTTER PECAN, but most visitors preferred HOT FUDGE. Both are excellent. OBLIGATO (Stahly) is a beautiful creamy orange of fine form and great performance qualities.

PURE ALLURE (Ritchie) is pure white and a clump of it is stunning. It has very fine form and good garden qualities. MAUI MOONLIGHT (Aitken) is pale yellow of rounded form and good branching. HELLCAT (Aitken) is so very good in every way that it ranks right up there with RARE EDITION. Its form is probably better than that variety, and it is a stunning clump. Light blue stands are infused with darker coloring, and the falls are such a dark purple they are almost black. It inherited its beautiful stalk from its parent, MYSTIQUE, and it is an outstanding performer.

Keith Keppel has given us a series of fine IBs in the plicata class, each different, each quite good. DOLL is pale apricot infused with mauve mark-

ings. It has wide, ruffled form and good substance. LOGO is unusual in its color pattern with an odd application of a reddish purple circle in the middle of the falls. This is atop an apricot ground color, and it is one people like or detest. TRIVIA, TRIPLET, NECTAR, and CANDY FLOSS are four others in varying tones of apricot and peach pink marked with shades of mauve, etc. Of these CANDY FLOSS is the one that is most different from the others. It is more faintly marked with plic shadings than the others, and it is more pink in color. All four are something that anyone should be proud to grow. They give rewards in bloom, color, and durability.

Older varieties are usually in our gardens because they were simply too good to discard. This year, some older varieties proved again that they are still classy. SEA PATROL (C. Palmer) is a clump of blue perfection; SNOW FESTIVAL (C. Palmer) is a pristine white of great form; RASPBERRY BLUSH (Hamblen) attracted more attention than any other pink because of the spot blended into the falls; and VOILA (Gatty) never fails to demand notice with its multitude of magenta violet flowers.

Border Bearded varieties are sometimes totally out of class because they are too big or too tall, but some are perfection. Leading the way is PINK BUBBLES (Hager). I believe that this one may be better than its illustrious relative BEVERLY SILLS. It is brilliant pink with fine form, good proportion, and star quality. MAID OF ORANGE (Aitken) bloomed later in the season, but it was a bright, bright spot of orange. ZINK PINK (Ensminger) is a near match for Pink Bubbles in color, and it has fine qualities. PECCADILLO and SHE-NANIGAN (Keppel) are superior peach and red violet plics. They are different from each other in color, but they are both excellent garden plants. Keith also has one of the very best garden varieties in PICAYUNE. It is a yellow and brown plic that blooms for a long period of time. Purists in this area are often wondering if it is fully open or it it is closing when they see it on the show bench because it sometimes does not fully expand. But for those who love irises, this one is a must. Despite the questions these people ask, it will consistently win a show award. It is a bright spot of color for weeks in the garden, so it is one that everyone should grow.



Aztec Sun



Fun Fest

In the early tall bearded season, VANITY (Hager), MYSTIQUE (Ghio), and AZTEC SUN (P. Dyer) reigned supreme over everything. With Dykes medals to Vanity and Mystique but not to Aztec Sun, one can see that while some varieties win the top awards and deserve them, not every iris gets the glory it deserves. Aztec Sun is one that didn't get its rewards. It is brilliant yellow, and it never fades one iota in wind, rain, or hot sun. All three of these varieties are types that could be recommended to the beginner with good results. The late season was dominated by the outstanding Hager iris SILVER YEARS. Its form may not be as perfect as some others, but it is a truly outstanding iris because it puts up magnificent stalks with many blue white flowers that are elegance personified.

Some varieties bloom so late that they may never be seen by anyone except those people who grow them. This year, MARY D (Hamblen) put on a great show of pinkish violet stands and blue violet falls, but I was the only one to see them. Opal Brown's irises bloomed late in Oklahoma gardens, and anyone who doesn't make a special effort to see these is missing a real treat. FUN FEST is a beautiful orange with a pink infusion on the stands. It has tall stalks and beautifully formed flowers. Even later in the season, FAIRY MEADOW opened dazzling white flowers with a tiny halo of gold and brilliant reddish beards. Heavy ruffling and heavy substance made this one a beauty of dazzling colors and good quality.



Pandora's Purple



Change of Heart

Everyone seems to look for something different in irises. Anyone who ever listens to the deliberation of judges at the seedling table will hear the comment, "We need to find something different." Woe unto the person who exhibits the perfect white, blue, yellow, or pink. They aren't different, and probably won't win an EC. If "different" is your cup of tea, try these. VIBRATIONS (M. Dunn) is red violet with white veins on the falls. Mary Dunn irises always have branching, and this is no exception. It is definitely different and quite colorful. WILD OATS (Durrance) has peach tan standards and red violet falls edged peach. It also has a white ray pattern on the falls. Bright and

colorful and quite attractive. PANDORA'S PURPLE (Ensminger) is a bit different every year. This year, it was superb. It is basically a violet flower, but the centers of both the stands and falls are "stone-washed" white and violet. An early variety that will please you and the garden visitor. FOOLISH FANCY (Hager) is a fancy plicata with grape pink stands and slightly darker falls with a fancy patterning of white on the falls. Very lovely garden flower. CHANGE OF HEART (Keppel) is simply beautiful. The stands are pink as are the falls, but the falls feature hafts that are deep maroon. This maroon is also blended into the pink of the stands and falls. This iris has never been very tall for me, but it is a beauty.

FANCY FACE (Mary Dunn) is violet with white beards and a white spot on the falls. It began early and was still blooming late in the season. CODICIL (Innerst) is light blue with deep blue beards. This small flowered variety is an eye-catcher and well worth the space. It is truly one that won't be forgotten.

For those who want a show flower, for those who want a fine garden performance, for those who like tall stately irises, for those who want a long bloom season—for each of you I recomment MOMENTUM (M. Dunn). Superb branching and many buds present a perfect picture for the season from early to late middle. It has white stands edged pale blue with pure white falls narrowly edged violet. Excellent! GUADALAJARA (Ghio) was an early, well branched orange that gave an outstanding performance and those much-coveted show stalks. MACHO HOMBRE (Hamner) is an orange brown with orange beards that is well branched, and it seemed to love the dry March weather. A different color on a quality flower.







Sandy Rose

LARRY GAULTER (B. Brown) is a broad, ruffled flower of dark violet with a blue cast. A very fine addition to a class with many fine varieties. INLAND PRINCESS (Hamner) is one that will bring memories of QUEEN OF HEARTS. It is heavily laced on all petals. These are light orange on the stands, perhaps coral is a better color description, and the falls are a darker tone with a white wash in the center. BYGONE ERA (Ghio) was hard to describe, so I consulted

the hybridizer's catalog and came up with the fact that it is constantly changing. Said to be deep apricot-wine-rose which constantly changes to pink-silver. I'm sure I would never have come up with that description, but suffice it to say that it is an ever-changing beauty. RARE TREAT (Schreiner) is snow white with narrow rims of deep violet blue. Great branching and sharp contrast in coloring make this one superior. MAHARISHI (Keppel) is a buffy salmon ground with a grape border on the falls. Another different plicata from the current plicata master. HONKY TONK BLUES (Schreiner) has great stalks with violet blue blended onto white flowers. Depending on the weather, this white varies in whiteness, but the flower never fails to have appeal for me.

LEMON FEVER (Maryott) is brilliant yellow on white. Often when the description says white edged in yellow, people shy away thinking that it is just another of those flowers. If that were the case with this one, a change of heart is needed. This is NOT just another of that color. It is brilliant, a beacon of ruffled style, heavy substance, and total beauty. It is slightly laced. SANDY ROSE (O. Brown) is just what the name says. It is uniquely different and a fine addition to the garden. OCEAN PACIFIC (Ghio) is a fine addition to the mid blue class. Heavily ruffled and substanced, it can vie with anything near it. INAUGURAL BALL (Ghio) is another of those strange, hard to describe colors. Keith Keppel describes it as metallic red purple. That's better than I could do to give justice to this pretty, ruffled flower. CRUZIN (M. Dunn) I can describe. It a very broad violet blue with a spray pattern of white that appears mostly on the falls but may appear on the stands as well. The amount of white varies for me, and the more white, the better I like this wonderfully branched variety with the fine stalks.

CRYSTAL DREAMS (Shockey) is a charmer of basically baby ribbon pink with shadings of lavender on the edges of the petals. It is lacy and ruffled and something very new in color. CHUCKLES (Ghio) is the most vigorous of the Gigolo children for me. It is peach pink marked with rosy violet on the falls. ORBITER (Atiken) repeated its 1988 award-winning performance this year.







My Valentine

Many flowers of smooth violet were displayed on the well-branched stalks. DELIRIOUS (Maryott) is a lacy ruffled orchid with tangerine beards. The stalks are well branched, and the flower form is nice. GOLD COUNTRY (Ghio) is a deep, solid gold, even the beard. Gave a great performance this year. DESIGNER GOWN (Ghio) is a pink grape color on very well formed flowers. The good part about this one is the consistent performance. Year after year it blooms heavily for weeks, but it always increases well enough to repeat the next year. HOLLYWOOD BLONDE (Gatty) Soft yellow that is heavily ruffled and features durable substance. Not a self, but subtly changes from one shade of soft yellow to another from heart to petal edge. SKYSHIP (B. Dunn) This violet variety with the infusion of reddish violet on the stands always attracts my attention. Large, ruffled flowers last for days, and the bud count keeps them coming. The newer MYSTIC WARRIOR (B. Dunn) seems to be in the same color class, but each is fine and different enough to merit a place of its own. VISION IN PINK (V. Wood) is a fine addition to the pink class. It produces many flowers of good form and good substance. Probably overlooked to this point, but it is a very worthy addition to the garden.

KEYSTONE PROGRESS (Ev. Kegerise) is a wonderful mid blue flower with impeccable form and heavy substance. This is one that is not often mentioned, but it should be. It is a very good iris. LOYALIST (Schreiners) is a bright, magenta violet that is different from anything else I grow. A very bright color on very nice stalks. ESMERALDA (Ghio) is a bright, bright orange that exudes quality, but the color is so overwhelming that most people notice nothing else about the variety. MY VALENTINE (Hager) is a wide, wide white with tangerine beards. Beautiful form, some lace and much quality on this one. NEWLYWED (Ghio) is a grape orchid with ruffles and lace. It is quite nice. EVENING SILK (Aitken) surprised me when it bloomed because I expected it to be dark violet. Instead, it is a lovely shade of violet blue that is shown on very beatifully formed flowers of good substance. SILHOUETTE (M. Dunn) is a changeable beauty of lavender blue and white. Tall, well branched stalks, show the many flowers well, and the form is quite nice. Not one that is boldly different in contrast, but certainly different from anything else. SPRING TIDINGS (Shoop) is a lovely creation. The standards are an orchid pink and the falls are closer to pink but still slightly blended with orchid. This combination makes for a bright, showy flower which was shown on well-branched stalks. KING'S RUBY (Hamner) did what most reds can't do, and that was win favor with me. It is a garnet red with some white marks at the hafts. It has nice form and good substance, and while I can't exactly say what set it apart in my mind, it is one that I enjoyed very much.

FRINGE BENEFITS (Hager) is a heavily laced, bright orange that demanded the spotlight. It deserved the notice. ROSETTE WINE (Schreiners) is probably the flower that comes closest to looking like its catalog picture of any iris I've ever grown. It is a raspberry violet or orchid color with a slight change in coloring in the falls. Three open flowers are almost certain on this one. RAPTURE IN BLUE (Schrieners) is a beautiful azure blue with white beards, ruffling, and good substance. STORYLINE (Ghio) has two of my favorite irises





Storyline

Acoma

in its background—GODDESS and RANCHO ROSE. It is a plicata in rose and pink with wide, ruffled form. TEST PATTERN (Ghio) is a butterscotch gold with markings of reddish brown. Bold coloration may not appeal to all, but it is a well formed flower that will attract attention. PALAZZO (Magee) is a soft yellow and white combination that is quite ruffled and a nice garden flower. ACOMA (Magee) has pale blue standards and almost horizontal falls of white with narrow edging of violet. Grew very tall for me and was an attention getter. TIME PIECE (Roderick) is a beautifully yellow creation with some white in the falls. It is bright and perky and ruffled. On a cloudy day in May, the blackest iris I've ever seen displayed three open flowers on a straight, well branched stalk. As I studied it, I decided that it would probably be dark violet when the sun hit it. The sun came out, the flower stayed practically black, and BEFORE THE STORM (Innerst) had a fan. While other varieties may seem dark, I've seen nothing with the color of this one. The stands are a bit lighter than the falls, but not much. Even the beards on this one are basically black. If it can match the performance of its pod parent SUPERSTITION, it will be a big winner.

PARIS BLUES (M. Dunn) is a beautifully formed medium blue with a lavender cast. With Portrait of Larrie and Carriage Trade in its heritage, it should prove to be a reliable iris for gardens in this area. DELICATE BALANCE (Gatty) is a delicate color, but it is a strong flower with plenty of substance. Standards are palest peach pink and the falls are a creamy white with the standard color on the edges and especially at the hafts. HOT STREAK (Ghio) is a bright yellow ground plicata with reddish edges on the falls. It is a brilliant spot in the garden.

STRATAGEM (Ghio) was a surprise to me since I was expecting it to be more of a pink tone. In reality, it is a rosy tan with deep rosy-brown marks at the hafts. A strong performer with many buds. DAREDEVIL (Keppel) is a white and deep blue plicata with tangerine beards. Definitely not just another blue and white plic. PRIZE DRAWING (Plough) has gold stands which are toward the tan side and falls with a rosy tan plic marking, actually seeming to have markings of creamy white instead of being a white ground with markings of a

darker color. ROUND TABLE (Ghio) is lemon yellow with rich brown markings. It has very good form and is a bright garden gem. SILVERADO (Schreiners) tried to steal the show again. These beautifully formed blue white flowers are borne on straight, well branched stalks, and the substance of the flowers is like leather in its strength, but beautiful to the sight.

I must confess that this article is being used as a filler because not enough material was available to fill this issue. The article is not well planned, and many fine irises that bloomed in my garden have been overlooked. This was a great season, and things that had not bloomed in years did so this year. I had even thought some were lost before they appeared this year. Not every hybridizer in the world is listed in this article, but when one sits at a typewriter and tries to remember, the memory does not always serve him well. Maybe 1992 will be another good bloom season, and other irises will win the recognition they deserve. Meanwhile, I just savor the pleasure of FINALLY having a good bloom season again. As a matter of fact, I'll have to savor it to give me the strength to fight the rot that is developing as a result of endless days of rain. When we figure out how to make the rains come at the right time and stop at the right time, gardening will be much easier.







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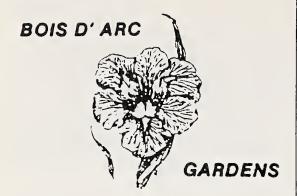
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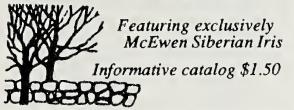
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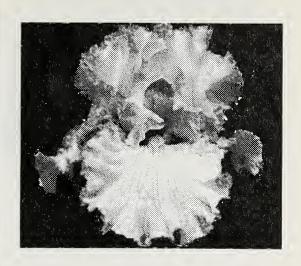
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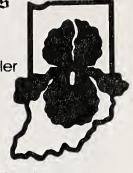
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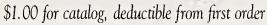
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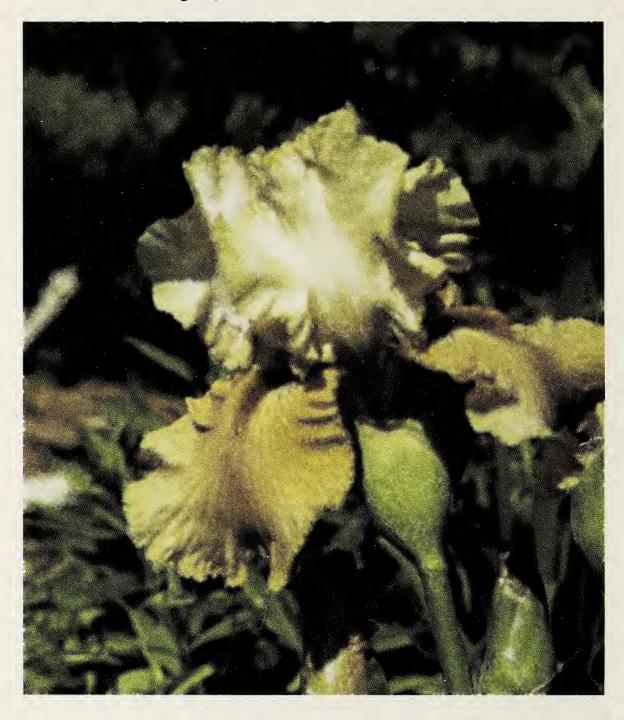
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Number 283 October 1991









# 1991 INTRODUCTIONS

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PAMPERED—TB, 36", L. White self with blue beards. Won best of Class, MVIS '90 show
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"The Iris Lady"

# BULLETIN OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

ISSN 0747-4172

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CAMPANIA

VOL. LXXII, NO. 4 Series No. 283

October, 1991

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- —Communications concerning **membership and dues** should be addressed to **Marilyn Harlow**, P.O. Box 8455, San Jose, CA 95155.
- —Communications concerning the **business matters** of the Society should be addressed to **Jeane Stayer**, 7414 E. 60th Street, Tulsa, OK 74145.
- —Communications regarding **advertising** should be addressed to **Kay Nelson**, Advertising Editor. For Information about membership, advertising rates and section dues, see Table of Contents.
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# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Region 5 Comes Alive—Registration Inform 1992 Convention Preview Region 5 Comes Alive—The Gardens 1991 AIS Awards How About Red Irises Meet the Lacks. New Director—Howard Shockey. Favorite Guest Irises 1991 Remembrances of Washington '91 The 1991 Convention. Convention Medians The Green Box Gardens Rebert Garden Westminster City Hall. Weber Garden Nicholls Garden Cox Garden GlenCairn Garden Heydon Observatory Figge Garden	Shirley Paquet       8         Yvonne W. Darnell       10         James Copeland       12         Adele S. Lawyer       23         24       24         Jim Browne       27         Bill Rinehart       31         Lynda Miller       35         Audrey Machulak       38         Lucy Burton       43         Jim Browne       45         John Burton       46         Judy Hollingworth       48         Ardi Kary       49         Margaret Sutton       52         Hooker Nichols       53			
Lawson Garden	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
The Iris Pond				
Draycott Garden Anna Mae Growing Tall Bearded Irises Simplified	e ivillier & Joan Verwilst61			
	Phil Williams 71 Sharon McAllister 73 James W. Waddick 74 Dean Brand 75 Bryce Williamson 82 Mitch Jameson 91			
Regular Features				
From the President	Minutes of Directors' Meeting.94Photo Credits100Slides for Rent.102AIS Sales Items103Commercial Directory104Advertising Rates116			

**Advertisers This Issue:** Polly Black Cover 2; Burch 80; Sooner State 81; Richard Tasco 81; Wight's Iris Garden 80

**ON THE COVER:** The Dykes Winner for 1991 is EVERYTHING PLUS seen on the front cover. Photo by Niswonger.



# From the Desk of the President

Kenneth Waite

Leaf Peekers are making their autumn pilgrimages to the hills and valleys to admire nature's handiwork. It is time for the gardens to be readied for their winter siesta. Memories of the 1991 Iris Season will be a joy to recall as another bloomtime is awaited, and indeed, it brought many surprises.

Was there ever a normal iris season? Reports from across the country prove this definitely was not one. The bloom in the east averaged two weeks early, the west coast averaged two weeks late. Some gardens in northern New England experienced large plant losses, while others in southern New England had minimal losses and an abundance of bloom.

A brief explanation of why the upcoming dues increase is necessary at this time seems appropriate. At the fall 1990 Board meeting in Dallas a committee was appointed to study the dues and fees structures of the Society. It was determined that although AIS was not into deficit spending currently, the margin was narrowing and could be a possibility very soon. The last dues increase was in January, 1981, more than ten years ago! Membership fees remained stable at the \$9.50 level because of high interest rates earned on investments and a consistent rise in membership. Everyone is aware of the decrease in interest rates and the inflationary spiral of recent years. The study showed that unless increases in dues and other fees were instituted it would be impossible to continue the quality of services at present levels. This schedule is effective January 1, 1992. Also, there will be a slight rise in advertising rates and registration fees.

New computers with necessary hardware and software for the Membership Secretary and Registrar have been purchased and are on line. This was made possible because of solicitations and donations to the computer fund by a few very concerned members. Gratitude is owed to those who gave so generously of time and monies for this project. Without their generosity these purchases could not have been made at this time of need. The upgrade in computer technology should meet the needs of these offices for several years.

Special plaudits are given to the two committees that worked on the above mentioned projects, the Dues and Fees Structure and the Computer Purchase.

During the lull in garden activities remember to promote irises and AIS to garden clubs and gardening friends. What better time to write a few notes on "What Is New and How it Grew In My Garden" or "My Iris Problems and Solutions" and send it to AIS Editor or your Regional Editor. Either would be happy to hear from you. Finally, have you or your club considered participating in the membership contest?

# AIS MEMBERSHIP RATES

**EFFECTIVE UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 1991** 

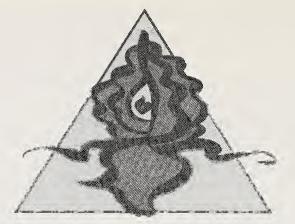
Annual	\$ 9.50	Family Triennial	. 28.50
Triennial	23.75	Life	. 190.00
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Youth Member, with others of	family as m	embers	2.00
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Society for Siberian Irises	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Spuria Iris Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	14.00
Society for Japanese Irises	3.50	9.00	4.00	10.50
Reblooming Iris Society	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Society for Pacific Coast				
Native Iris	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Species Iris Group of				
North America	3.50	9.00	4.50	10.50
Louisiana Iris Society of America	3.00	8.00	4.50	12.00
Dwarf Iris Society	3.00	8.00	4.50	12.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00

Membership in AIS sections is open to all AIS members. Payment may be made directly to the Section, or may be made payable to the American Iris Society and sent to AIS Membership Secretary, Marilyn Harlow, P.O. Box 8455, San Jose, CA 95155

#### **American Iris Society Conventions**

1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997	Atlanta, GA Fort Worth, TX Portland, OR Hershey, PA Sacramento, CA	April 28-May 2 April 20-24 May 21-25
1998	Denver, CO	



# ATLANTA

Region Five Comes Alive in 1992

American Iris Society Convention April 28 - May 2, 1992 Atlanta, Georgia

Convention The Stouffer Waverly Hotel Headquarters—2450 Galleria Parkway Atlanta, GA 30339

Directions: Off U.S. 41 at I-285 in Northwest Atlanta area.

Local (404) 953-4500.

Toll free (800) 468-3571

Rates: Single = \$105.00

Triple = \$120.00

Double = 109.00

Quad. = 130.00

All Rates are Exclusive of Motel, State and Local Taxes (13%)

Please make reservations directly with the Stouffer Waverly, using the card enclosed with your registration pack. If you reserve by phone, state that you are attending AIS Convention and this will assure you of reduced rates. All rooms blocked for the convention which are not reserved by *April 7, 1992* will be released to the general public. Hotel check-in time is 3:00 PM, check-out 12 noon. Free public parking is adjacent to hotel. Airport Transportation information will be sent with Registration Packet.

Registration fees: postmarked before March 4 = \$162.50

received by April 1 = 185.00

received after April 1 = 205.00

Youth Registration (18 and under) = 120.00

Registrations are closed April 22.

Partial registration: specify if you don't plan to attend:

Welcome dinner, subtract - \$10.00 Awards banquet, subtract - \$25.00

All gardens (buses, gardens, lunches are package deal) if not attending subtract \$45.00.

Optional Tours:	Tour #1	\$35.00	Tour #2	\$18.00
*	Tour #3	\$20.00	Tour #4	\$20.00

Optional Tours are based on demand and bus seating of people taking tour; your money will be refunded in case of cancellation of tour.

Make checks payable to 1992 AIS Convention and mail to:

Frank L. Johnson 102 Blossom Cir. Westminster, SC 29693

Refunds: If it is necessary to cancel a registration, full refund is assured if registrar is notified by March 4, and 50% refund if notified by March 24, 1992. **NO REFUNDS THEREAFTER.** 

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- Exceptions: Travel from Delta's Canadian cities will apply at 40% discount, and travel solely on Delta Connection Carriers will apply at a 35% discount.

To take advantage of either discount, follow these simple steps:

- 1. Call Delta, or have your travel agent call, at 1-800-241-6760, for reservations 8:30 a.m. 10:00 p.m., Eastern Time Daily.
- 2. Refer to File Number: U0838
- 3. Certain restrictions may apply and seats are limited.
- 4. These discounts are available *only* through Delta's toll-free number, so call today!

As a courtesy to garden owners, please consider the private convention gardens closed for viewing from April 19 to May 2.

Y'all come! Jane and Frank Johnson

- Optional Tour #1—Full day (April 28th) trip to Callaway Gardens with lunch, bus and garden escorted tour—Cost = \$35.00.
- Optional Tour #2—1/2 day tour (a.m. April 29th) of Georgia Governor's Mansion, Atlanta Historical Center, Swan House and Tullie Smith House—Cost \$18.00.
- Optional Tour #3—1/2 day tour (a.m. and p.m. April 29th) of Cyclorama, Atlanta Botanical Gardens—Cost = \$20.00.
- Optional Tour #4—1/2 day (p.m. April 29th) driving tour of Downtown Atlanta, visit to World of Coca Cola, and CNN Center—Cost = \$20.00.

More tour information will be included in January 1992 Bulletin.

# REGION FIVE COMES ALIVE 1992 CONVENTION PREVIEW

Shirley Paquet (South Carolina)

Plans were set in motion in 1983 for Region Five to host its first National Convention in Atlanta in 1992. This spring the results of our planning were seen when we toured the twelve gardens. In spite of some rot caused by excessive spring rains, the gardens put on a great show. First year bloom and increase on the bearded varieties were good and the beardless plantings were showing good bloom on second year growth.

The gardens are located in the Greater Atlanta area, Athens, and Milledgeville, Georgia (Zone 7 and 8 plant hardiness) to insure optimum bloom.

The garden of Dean Day Smith, located north of Atlanta, is set apart in a split rail fence enclosed area with brick walks and gazebo. Surrounding her Dykes Medal bed are the guest irises among other perennial plantings. A short walk to the pond in front of the house rewards one with a view of Louisianas in bloom.

The city garden of Ken Duke has newly established timber-enclosed raised beds showing the irises off well. Next year's bloom should be outstanding.

Harry and Juanita Turner's garden in suburban Snellville is a well established garden filled with rhododendrons, roses, a large collection of his own irises and seedlings. The guest irises are along the driveway in special beds.

In the scenic town of Conyers is the Maurice and Laura Lewis garden. This is a nicely laid out iris garden with other plants interspersed. A decorative pond is being added to add to the beauty of the place.

Guest iris beds have been incorporated into the perennial garden at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia on the grounds of the University of Georgia. Jeannette Coplin, on the staff, oversees these plantings. These, along with the conservatory and native plant section, make an interesting stop.

In historic Milledgeville, Lockerly Arboretum has good bloom on the guest beds overlooking the large lotus pond where Louisianas and Siberians are planted on the banks and on a small island. A small museum and greenhouse may be seen, too. Elizabeth Threlkeld initiated the plantings now overseen by Murali Thirumal.

At the nearby gardens of the Yearwood and Watson families, the bearded and beardless irises grow very well. Spurias are a special treat. Their own irises, daylilies, and native azaleas add to the scene.

A trip through middle Georgia leads to Buck Creek Farm in Orchard Hill, south of Atlanta. The long driveway entrance is lined with Milt and Pauline Jellum's own collection of well grown irises with the farm's "pick-it-yourself" berry bushes and fruit trees behind. The guest irises are doing magnificently in raised beds between wide, straw-lined walkways.

Bill and Lucy Stewart's garden is located on two city lots in the Iris City of Griffin. Their garden is filled with well grown guests, their own irises, daylilies, and other perennials.

The Jean and Jerry Kopp home in nearby Jonesboro has landscaped beds with many unusual plants including a kiwi vine covering an arbor along with the guest irises. The home overlooks a large lake with a gazebo and dock. Whimiscal topiary adorns the back lawn.

The Hawkins garden, also in Jonesboro, is planted with many varieties of irises and other perennials, making an interesting setting for special guest beds. Louisianas grow well here, too. Carolyn has many other convention "hats" in addition to tending a convention garden.

The guest irises planted at the convention hotel, the Waverly at the Galleria on the northern perimeter of Atlanta, are in a pleasant park adjoining the hotel. This should provide a chance to enjoy irises and exercise.

Guest irises in bloom here and in the Washington gardens that I found outstanding were: SUKY (Mahan '91); STARLIT VELVET (Stahly '91); SIGHS AND WHISPERS (Black '90); TRIPLE WHAMMY (Hager '90); ARIZONA HOLIDAY (Durrance '88); SUNPOLKA (Magee '91); OPEN ARMS (Byers '89); RAVEN ROCK (Carr '87); SMART ALEC (Gatty '88); ANN (Lineberger '88); AGNES HALE (Turner '86).

Others that were well received were: MOSTEST BB (Durrance '90); super with 3 stalks on 6 fans, 6-7 buds with blooms of rich gold; FASCINATOR (Hager '90); brown standards, bronze-gold falls, orange beards; GOD'S HANDIWORK (Ghio '91); very ruffled lavendar with darker veins; CRYSTAL FLAIR (Stadler '91) well named and nice; FRENCH PERFUME (Moller '91); lovely pink CLUMP, first year! ALMADEN (Maryott '91) DARK and distinctive; GIRL NEXT DOOR (Black '91); older but still noticeable WINDSONG WEST (H. Nichols '88); DANCE WITH ME (Robinson '89); FROSTED SAPPHIRE (Niswonger '88); The MTB ZULA (K. Fisher '90) was lovely and growing well.

Some TB seedlings that were unique: 86-27D Keppel; 8404A Roderick; 84T19 Aitken; G 63-2 (Byers) did well in two gardens; H 80-3E (J. Hoage); 84-25-4 (J. Hedgecock); D 81-51-1 (Denney/McWhirter); D 86-40 (Durrance); B 84-858-10 (B. Dunn).

Beardless irises with distinction were: Louisianas: FLAME ON (Rowlan '87) dark rose-red with enormous gold signals; ICHABON (Faggard '86) rosy maroon with gold signals surrounded by cream echoing signal shape, ICE ANGEL (Faggard '88) a nice white; Spurias SONORAN CABELLERO, LOVE FOR LEILA, and PICHACHO PEAK by Floyd Wickenkamp were growing tall with large flowers; Siberian guests are establishing well, but bloom was late. CONTRAST IN STYLES (Hollingworth '89) with accent on the blue edged styles was striking.

We in Region Five feel sure our hospitality, gardens, and other convention surprises will make your trip memorable. Make plans now to join us in 1992.

# "REGION FIVE COMES ALIVE IN '92" THE GARDENS

#### Yvonne Ward Darnell

The 1991 pre-convention was enjoyed by all. The bloom was great and the guest irises showed excellent growth. The even dozen displayed gardens chosen for next year's convention are located throughout North Central Georgia.

- Duke Garden—Ken Duke's front yard has been redone to accommodate all of his guest irises. Ken, in addition to being in charge of convention supplies, also designed the beautiful convention logo.
- Smith Garden—The extensive, landscaped grounds at the home of Mrs.
   Deen Day Smith will feature a Dykes Medal Garden. Native plants and nature walkways surround the pond by the home.
- 3. Turner Garden—This is the garden of region five's best known hybridizer, Harry Turner, and his wife Juanita. They have an extensive garden which includes his seedling beds in Snellville. Their garden is sure to be a treat for viewing the latest irises.
- 4. Lewis Garden—Laura and Maurice Lewis have a garden that has been well cared for and additions have been made through the years. Laura was one of the first to offer a garden for the convention. Many beardless irises may be seen here in addition to the bearded.
- 5. Horticultural Gardens of the University of Georgia—Located 80 miles from Atlanta in Athens, this is a beautiful garden. After a short walk through the native flora garden, the annual-perennial gardens come into view. The rose and herb garden is on the left. As you continue by the many perennials bordering the walkways, you will see a display of AGNES HALE (Harry Turner) on your way to the Iris planting.

- 6. Lockerly Arboretum in Historic Milledgeville—The praise for this garden goes to Elizabeth Threlkeld, an Oconee Valley Iris Club and AIS member. Elizabeth has been instrumental in establishing, with Oconee Valley Iris Club help, several iris beds including Louisiana irises planted around the lake. The landscaped grounds include many trees, a small museum, and a greenhouse.
- 7. & 8. The Watson Garden and the Yearwood Garden—Also located in Milledgeville, these gardens will be a pleasure to visit. Siberian, spuria, Louisiana and bearded irises are growing well here. In addition, you will see daylilies, native azaleas, prize chickens and cows. They have done a lot of extra work to enhance their gardens for the convention.
- 9. Jellum Garden—This is a large farm devoted to pick-it-yourself berries of all varieties. Pauline sells irises and daylilies along with the berries ripe at their bloom time. The guest irises are in beds alongside the lush berry bushes and strawberry beds.
- 10. Stewart Garden—Bill and Lucy Stewart's garden is two nicely landscaped lots. Their own extensive collection of irises and daylilies makes a nice backdrop for the guest iris beds.
- 11. Hawkins Garden—Carolyn Hawkins is another Georgia Iris Society member who has been working in many capacities on the convention, yet she took the time to work on a tour garden. Carolyn has many unusual plants and many varieties of irises in addition to the guest irises which are planted in special beds.
- 12. Kopp Garden—Jean and Jerry Kopp are new AIS members kind enough to put their garden on tour. Besides the new iris beds, the garden includes many exotic plants such as a monkey puzzle tree, Amorphophallus rivieri, an odd type of arum that sends a five foot shoot that looks like a piece of dark red sculpture. Sprawling across the lawn is a larger than life topiary fox hunt scene. This garden is a real treat that will certainly be a topic for conversation.

The Waverly Hotel will have a master planting of guest irises. John Van Voorhis, horticulturist with the complex's staff, supervised these plantings.

Region 5 members have worked hard to make sure the 1992 convention will be a huge success. We would like to invite our fellow iris lovers to head south next April.

## 1991 AIS AWARDS

#### DYKES MEMORIAL MEDAL

EVERYTHING PLUS (TB) (D. Niswonger) 57 votes. 8.6%

#### Runnersup

EXTRAVAGANT (TB) (M. HAMBLEN) 46 votes. TIDES IN (TB) (SCHREINER'S) 33 votes DESIGNER GOWN (TB) (J. GHIO) 26 votes.

#### **VOTES**

#### KNOWLTON MEDAL (BB)

158 SHENANIGAN (K. Keppel)

#### Runnersup

75 CHICKASAW SUE (J. Gibson)71 MUSIC BOX DANCER (E. Roderick)

#### HANS AND JACOB SASS MEDAL (IB)

112 BUTTER PECAN (B. Hager)
Runnersup

92 RED ZINGER (P. Black) 87 HARLOW GOLD (P. Black)

#### **COOK-DOUGLAS MEDAL (SDB)**

124 CHUBBY CHEEKS (P. Black)

#### Runnersup

42 STARLIGHT WALTZ (C. Helsley)
42 THRICE BLESSED (J. Weiler)

#### **CAPARNE-WELCH MEDAL (MDB)**

41 PUPPET BABY (C. Boswell)

#### Runnersup

39 SPARKY (T. Aitken) 38 FLEA CIRCUS (B. Hager)

#### MORGAN-WOOD MEDAL (SIB)

83 MABEL CODAY (C. Helsley)

#### Runnersup

53 WINDWOOD SPRING (R. Hollingworth)44 JAMAICAN VELVET (W. McGarvey)

#### **DEBAILLON MEDAL (LA)**

52 RHETT (M. Dunn)

#### Runnersup

51 DELTA DAWN (M. Dunn)

49 PRESIDENT HEDLEY (J. Mertzweiler)

# WILLIAMSON-WHITE AWARD (MTB)

58 CRYSTAL RUFFLES (M. L. Dunderman)

#### Runnersup

38 GRANDPA'S GIRL (K. Fisher) 34 NEW WAVE (B. Hager)

#### C. G. WHITE AWARD

(1/2 or more Aril)

33 SYRIAN JEWEL (H. Shockey)

#### Runnersup

27 ONLOOKER (B. Hager)24 JACOB'S WELL (M. Brizendine)

#### **WILLIAM MOHR AWARD**

(1/4 to 1/2 April)

56 JEWEL OF OMAR (C. Boswell)

#### Runnersup

23 OMAR'S TORCH (C. Boswell)

23 SOLOMON'S GLORY (H. Nichols)

#### **ERIC NIES AWARD (SPU)**

29 HIGHLINE CORAL (E. McCown)

#### Runnersup

18 DRESS CIRCLE (B. Hager)
17 SUNSET ETCHING (G. Gaddie)

#### MITCHELL AWARD (CA)

14 DRIVE YOU WILD (J. Ghio)

#### Runnersup

10 PEANUT GALLERY (J. Ghio) 8 CANDY BANNER (L. Lawyer)

#### PAYNE AWARD (JI)

See AIS Bulletin

#### **AWARD OF MERIT**

VOTES

#### MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED

35 LITTLE GREEN EYES (C. Boswell)

31 BURGUNDY BLUES (G. Gaddie)

27 TINY APRICOT (B. Hager)

27 EGRET SNOW (D. Sindt)

#### SIBERIAN

118 JEWELLED CROWN (R. Hollingworth)

66 INDY (R. Hollingworth)

65 SILVER ILLUSION (D. Johnson)

#### Runnersup

53 PINK SPARKLE (B. Hager)

43 HIGH STANDARDS (R. Hollingworth)

42 PRESIDENT TRUMAN (L. Bellagamba)

#### STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

95 DARK VADER (R. & L. Miller)

67 BLUE LINE (B. Jones)

67 PLUM WINE (J. Weiler)

61 RITA KINSELLA (H. Briscoe)

#### Runnersup

53 CHERRY TART (T. Aitken)

52 SENOR FROG (T. Aitken)

50 JILLAROO (A. Ensminger)

#### **BORDER BEARDED**

161 ZINC PINK (A. Ensminger)

68 BROWNBERRY (A. & D. Willott)

59 NURSERY SCHOOL (J. Ghio)

#### Runnersup

53 KIRSCH (J. Burch)

52 AEGEAN WALTZ (H. Nichols)

50 PEACH PETALS (D. Niswonger)

#### INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

106 MAUI MOONLIGHT (T. Aitken)

88 ASK ALMA (C. Lankow)

53 BABY BLUE MARINE (D. Denney)

#### Runnersup

48 DOLL (K. Keppel)

32 HAT TRICK (P. Black)

32 MOSS BAY (C. Lankow)

#### LOUISIANA

51 EXQUISITE LADY (A. Owen)

41 FRANK CHOWNING (H. Rowlan)

36 MISSISSIPPI GAMBLER (M. Dunn)

#### Runnersup

32 PROFESSOR JIM (J. Mertzweiler)

31 C'EST CHIC (M. Dunn)

31 SEA WISP (H. Rowlan)

#### TALL BEARDED

267 SILVERADO (Schreiners)

139 CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE (D.

Niswonger)

115 ORANGE SLICES (D.

Niswonger)

106 OKTOBERFEST (W. Maryott)

88 SNOWBROOK (K. Keppel)

79 EAGLES FLIGHT (Schreiners)

76 SWEET MUSETTE (Schreiners)

73 ALTRUIST (Schreiners)

73 HOLY KNIGHT (K. Mohr)

69 DARKSIDE (Schreiners)

66 GYPSY WOMAN (Schreiners)

#### WALTHER CUP

Most HM votes—All categories

**VOTES** 

118 FROSTED VELVET (K. Fisher)

#### Runnersup

105 RASPBERRY FUDGE (K. Keppel)102 ROSETTE WINE (Schreiners)

# HONORABLE MENTION

#### **VOTES**

#### **BORDER BEARDED**

78 CALICO CAT (C. Lankow)

75 FRIZZY LIZZY (J. Weiler)

75 SONJA'S SELAH (A. Ensminger)

56 BLACKBEARD (J. Weiler)

51 BORDER BANDIT (P. Black)

50 RUBY WILSON (D. Denney)

46 LITTLE DAZZLER (D. Pinegar)

36 MAID OF ORANGE (T. Aitken)

27 NAUTICAL FLAG (P. Black)

25 ALLENDALE (R. Sparling)

20 NORTH COAST (A. & D. Willott)

17 CORAL SHELL (B. Jones)

15 SKY ECHO (P. Dyer)

#### ARILBRED (1/4 to 1/2 Aril)

47 OMAR THE TENTMAKER (C. Boswell)

25 EGYPTIAN LULLABY (H. Nichols)

11 VIEWER'S WISH (L. Peterson)

10 FICKLE STORM (F. Gadd)

10 LOSKEHA (F. Gadd)

10 PROMENADE LADÝ (L. Flanagan)

#### STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

64 SERENITY PRAYER (P. Dyer)

35 BAY RUFFLES (B. Warburton)

31 PUMPKIN CENTER (B. Jones)

27 TU TU TURQUOISE (P. Black)

22 LEPRECHAUN'S EYELASH (C. Boswell)

20 DRAMBUIE (A. & D. Willott)

20 PATACAKE (P. Black)

19 LITTLE SHOWOFF (E. Hall)

19 SHEER CLASS (L. Miller)

19 WAKE UP (P. Black)

18 ALLEY CAT (A. & D. Willott)

18 CHOCOLATE CUPCAKE (R. Jeffries)

18 DUSKY THIEF (H. Nichols)

16 FRUIT SALAD (L. Miller)

- 16 HANKY (T. Magee)

- 16 MY SHEBA (B. Hager) 16 SKY VIOLET (B. Jones) 15 COOL MELODRAMA (H. Nichols)
- 15 DOROTHY HOWARD (C. Palmer)
- 15 JADE JEWELS (T. Aitken) 15 LEMON BLOSSOM (T. Magee)
- 15 SASS WITH CLASS (P. Black)

#### **CALIFORNICAE**

11 SMUGGLERS COVE (V. Wood) 10 IN THE MONEY (J. Ghio)

#### MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED

- 118 FROSTED VELVET (K. Fisher)
- 72 STRIPED PANTS (K. Fisher)
- 53 CAROL LEE (K. Fisher)
- 35 LADY DI (T. Varner)
- 35 LITTLE JAZZ MAN (D. Guild) 34 CHERRY (M. Dunderman)
- 27 PAYOFF (J. & V. Craig)
- 23 FRILLY MILLIE (J. Witt)
- 16 QUIET PLACE (T. Varner)

#### **ARIL 7 ARILBRED**

(1/2 or more Aril)

- 15 KIOSK (B. Hager) 13 ARABIAN MIDNIGHT (L. Rich)
- 13 FIRST SARGEANT (L. Danielson)
- 12 HOOPLA (L. Danielson)
- 10 ANGEL'S STAR (L. Danielson) 10 DESERT MIRAGE (L. Rich)

#### **INTERMEDIATE BEARDED**

- 96 BLUE EYED BLOND (A. Ensminger)
- 69 HOT SPICE (T. Aitken)
- 59 SUNNY DAWN (B. Jones)
- 35 HISSY FIT (S. Innerst)
- 34 FIDDLE FADDLE (B. Hager)
- 34 PIECE OF CAKE (B. Hager)
- 30 APRICOT ALA MODE (C. Boswell)

- 30 JUNGLE KITTEN (T. Breth)
- 26 SIXTEEN CANDLES (M. Byers) 24 FRIDAY HARBOR (C. Lankow)
- 24 HUBBUB (A. Ensminger)
- 21 SHOOTING SPARKS (P. Black)
- 21 PACER (T. Aitken) 19 LOW HO SILVER (M. Byers)
- 17 LITTLE BIG HORN (M. Byers)
- 15 GENTLE SHOWERS (N. Sprowls)
- 15 JUNE ROSE (R. Blodgett) 15 WHITE CHAPEAU (R. Blodgett)

#### MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED

- 33 STRAWBERRY CREAM (J. Boushay)
- 29 BEE EARLY (L. Miller)
- 28 PIXIE FLIRT (A. & D. Willott)
- 26 SPOT OF TEA (P. Black)
- 24 GRAPELET (T. Aitken)
- 23 MIST OF BLUE (C. Palmer) 20 PETITE BLUSH (J. Boushay)
- 18 BROWNIE BOY (M. Brizendine)
- 17 MINI MINX (J. & L. Fry) 16 GARDEN GNOME (P. Black)
- 16 PETITE JEWEL (D. Albers)

#### **LOUISIANA**

- 16 ASHLEY MICHELLE (J. Mertzweiler)
- 16 VOODOO MAGIC (H. Rowlan) 15 WAVERLY PINK (E. Lineberger)

#### TALL BEARDED

- 105 RASPBERRY FUDGE (K. Keppel)
- 102 ROSETTE WINE (Schreiners)
  - 78 BEFORE THE STORM (S. Innerst)
  - 70 THORNBIRD (M. Byers)
  - 67 GYRO (T. Aitken)
- 48 CONJURATION (M. Byers)
- 41 CRYSTAL DREAMS (H. Shockey)
- 39 DEAR DOROTHY (E. Roderick)
- 37 BUBBLE UP (J. Ghio)

- 36 AMERICA'S CUP (J. McWhirter)
- 35 FORT BRAGG (D. Denney)
- 32 BETTY FRANCIS (C. Mahan)
- 32 GOODBYE HEART (Schreiners)
- 28 BOHEMIAN (Schreiners)
- 26 FEMME FATALE (J. Gatty)
- 25 ELIZABETH MARRISON (H. Nichols)

#### SIBERIAN

- 72 LIBERTY HILLS (A. Miller)
- 31 SPRINGS BROOK (B. Warburton)
- 28 SNOWY MOUNTAIN (D. Johnson)
- 27 CONTRAST IN STYLES (R. Hollingworth)
- 27 DIANNE'S DAUGHTER (C. McEwen)

- 24 QUEEN'S GAMBIT (D. Johnson)
- 23 WHITE TRIANGLES (B. Warburton)
- 21 ILLINI PURPLE PEPPER (S. Varner)
- 19 BABY SISTER (C. McEwen)
- 17 ILLINI GLORY (S. Varner)
- 17 STANDING TALL (D. Johnson)
- 17 TRI BLUE (D. Johnson)

#### **SPURIA**

- 26 BETTY MY LOVE (F. Wickenkamp)
- 25 BELLISINADO (G. Corlew)
- 19 BALI BALI (C. Jenkins)
- 19 FINALLY FREE (C. Jenkins)
- 19 LIVELY ONE (C. Jenkins)
- 18 SONORAN SENORITA (F. Wickenkamp)
- 17 RESPECTABLE (J. Ghio)
- 13 CUST (D. Niswonger)



Shenanigan



Frosted Velvet



**Butter Pecan** 



Jewel of Omar



Rhett



Syrian Jewel



Mabel Coday



Puppet Baby



Highline Coral



Drive You Wild



Chubby Cheeks



**Exquisite Lady** 



Mississippi Gambler



Frank Chowning



Little Green Eyes



Tiny Apricot



**Burgundy Blues** 



Brownberry



Rita Kinsella



Nursery School



Baby Blue Marine



Dark Vader



Oktoberfest



Holy Night



Blue Line



Silver Illusion



Eagle's Flight



Gypsy Woman



Altruist



Sweet Musette



Darkside



Silverado



Orange Slices



Champagne Elegance



Jewelled Crown



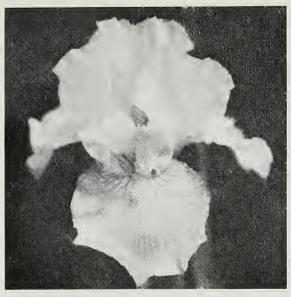
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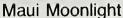


Plum Wine



Snowbrook







Ask Alma

### **HOW ABOUT RED IRISES?**

Adele S. Lawyer (California)

An article in *Science* in June 1991, pp. 1613, is entitled, "When Do You Send Blue Roses?" It was reported that a genetic engineering firm, "DNA Plant Technology Corporation" (DNAP), is about to field-test genetically transformed chrysanthemums with pure white flowers. They predict that these will be available to florists within two years.

Although white chrysanthemums are already on the market, these engineered versions are more productive and disease-resistant than previous introductions. The improvement was accomplished by adding a non-functional duplicate of the pigment gene, which suppressed the original gene's color expression.

This and other gene-splicing techniques, according to *Science*, "promises colors never seen in nature". . . "Violets are red and roses are blue" may be an alternate version of the traditional quote. "If DNAP and its partners, the Dutch seed company, Zaadunie B.V., succeed in their quest for blue roses, a lot of flower lore will soon need rewriting."

There are already some roses approaching blue in color, and I personally feel that they represent only a novelty and add nothing to the charm of roses.

Now truly red irises, that's something else again! Breeders have been trying so hard to accomplish this, and along the way, have introduced burgundy varieties of various intensities which have been registered with flaming names. Bob Schreiner once said, "By the time someone gets a really red iris, we will have run out of red names!" Well, they said something similiar about pink irises not so long ago . . .

# MEET THE LACKS

In no way could one capture the true personalities of Publication Sales Director C. J. Lack and his wife and helper Kitty on paper. One should meet them in person to know their real qualities of dedication, hospitality, and enthusiasm.

The Lacks both grew up in Oklahoma; he in Okemah; she in Carnegie. However, they married in Richmond, California, about a hundred years ago, according to Kitty. Actually, it was 46 years ago. They have two sons, Michael of Wichita and Greg of Tulsa. One has Kitty's red hair and C. J.'s personality; the other has C. J.'s dark hair and Kitty's personality.

The Lacks began growing irises in 1957 when a friend gave them a few rhizomes, including BELLE MEAD. From then, the number just grew. They joined the Tulsa Area Iris Society at its second meeting in 1962, and they joined AIS in 1963. They dropped out from 1968 to 1972 while they lived in Monrovia, Liberia in West Africa. Upon their return, they rejoined AIS and were talked into having a convention garden at their farm for the 1980 Convention. Since then, they have attended most of the national conventions.

In 1987, Jaymie Heathcock, Jeane Stayer, and Ron Mullin convinced them to take the job as Publication Sales Director. Through this job, they have made many wonderful friends all over the world.

The Lacks grow a large number of irises, daylilies and other flowers, and they belong to several iris clubs in Oklahoma. Both are active workers in these clubs, faithful in attendance, and generous with plant donations for sales.

One room of their home is filled with a neat and orderly supply of AIS publications arranged in such a way that it helps them fill orders quickly. One who has never seen the volume of mail and the staggering number of supplies owned by AIS has no idea just how important C. J. and Kitty are to our Society. They have taken sales items to several conventions where they spent hours sitting at a desk to enable convention goers to buy /.IS items.

We are indeed lucky to have C. J. and Kitty Lack working for AIS. Those of us who know them are even luckier to count these two great people as our friends.

# **NEW DIRECTOR**

Howard Shockey was selected to fill the unexpired term of Emma Hobbs after serving as the Slides Chairman for the past few years. Howard was born in Albuquerque and has lived there all his life except for the time when he was a fighter pilot during World War II. He attended the University of New Mexico and had his own mechanical contracting business before retiring in 1980 to work solely with irises.

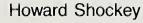
He became interested in irises in 1957 after attending the Albuquerque Iris Show. He began trying embryo culture with onco seedlings almost immediately, and he has been hybridizing pure arils, arilbreds, and tall bearded irises ever since.

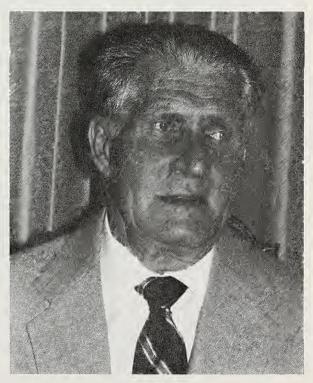
Howard served as RVP of Region 23, and he is president of the Aril Society International. He also serves as editor and publisher of the Aril Society's Yearbook.

Howard and his wife, Irene, have been married 39 years and have three daughters and five grandchildren. Although irises are his number one hobby, he also enjoys classical music and his favorite composer is Richard Wagner.



Kitty and C. J. Lack

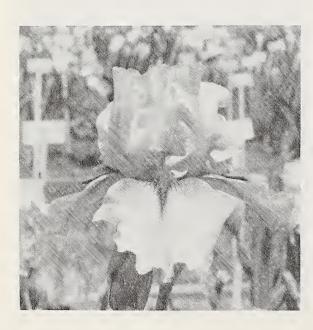




# **FAVORITE GUEST IRISES FOR 1991**

Rich Randall (Virginia)

Place Iris		Type	Hybridizer	Votes
1	Thornbird	TB	M. Byers	119
2	Dusky Challenger	TB	Schreiners	107
3	Aqua Whispers	SIB	A. M. Miller	103
4	Shakers Prayer	SIB	C. Warner	101
5	Liberty Hills	SIB	A. M. Miller	99
6	Conjuration	TB	M. Byers	83
7	Before the Storm	TB	S. Innerst	66
8	Frosted Velvet	MTB	K. Fisher	63
9	Purple Pepper	TB	D. Nearpass	61
10	Sighs and Whispers	TB	P. Black	54
11	Petite Monet	MTB	K. Steele	50
12	Boogie Woogie	TB	H. Nichols	46
	Regal Affair	TB	G. Shoop	46
	Rosette Wine	TB	Schreiners	46
	Sultan's Ruby	SIB	R. Hollingworth	46
16	Silverado	TB	Schreiners	43
17	David Keith	TB	J. Stadler	42
18	Brownberry	BB	A. & D. Willott	41
	Urgent	TB	H. Nichols	41
20	Jewelled Crown	SIB	R. Hollingworth	36
	Suky	TB	C. Mahan	36
	Supreme Sultan	TB	Schreiners	36
23	Reprise	SIB	B. Warburton	35
	Sonjas Selah	BB	A. Ensminger	35
	Starlit Velvet	TB	H. Stahly	35
	Triple Whammy	TB	B. Hager	35



Thornbird

# REMEMBRANCES OF WASHINGTON '91

Jim Browne (Tennessee)

Every iris convention has its own unique flavor and this year's National in the Washington, DC area is no exception. From the first greetings at the registration desk to the closing banquet, the delegate could sense the closeness of each local committee member as he/she worked to make our visit to their home region a special occasion.

Opening the convention packet, I found the familiar name tag. However, instead of pinning to my clothes leaving permanent flaws, it neatly hung around my neck. The large print on the tag was very helpful. (I am told that Rosalie Figge, local iris treasure herself, encouraged easy-to-read, large lettered name tags.) Several times I would be greeted by someone who met me in Memphis (and keep in mind that I met nearly 750 delegates). Unfortunately, I could not remember their name and had only to glance at their tag to save face. Also, I appreciated the master list of delegates distributed in the packets. While this is not new, the listing by region was helpful. As the convention closed, I marked off the delegates whom I knew and the new friends that I hope to see at future conventions.

Perusing the convention booklet, I found the gardens listed in alphabetical order with page tabs making it easy to find the garden listing. It is also a convenience to find the garden owner's address and phone number making thank you greetings easier. Within the pages of the handbook, I found the convention schedule of events. Carol Warner, RVP for Region 4, accomplished the impossible. She was able to schedule most of the AIS sectional meetings with a minimum of time conflict. One additional revelation in this book is the statement that ballots for the Cook and President's Cups could be given to the bus captains upon arrival at the hotel on the final day of tours or placed in the ballot box. This action saved the frustration of finding the ballot box! Why didn't we think of this before now?

The convention was headquartered in a tranquil corner of paradise. The newness of the Fairview Park Marriott was softened by its lovely shrub plantings, sparkling waters, and vibrant bedding plants. A nearby lake with clumps of Iris Pseudacorus growing along its shores, blooming water lilies, lotus, and cattails added another dimension to this quietude. The hotel was encircled by a jogging/bike trail that allowed a close-up view of the huge, grand trees of the Atlantic seaboard, wildflowers like Jack-in-the-pulpit and mayapple, and an interesting bog plant called skunk cabbage which apparently produces a foul odor when bruised. We gave very strong consideration to bringing home a small sample in our luggage. Just imagine the aroma after being transferred from plane to plane!

Inside the hotel, management seemed to be aware of the needs of this convention. The hotel restaurant opened at 5:30 a.m. each morning for coffee

or a light buffet breakfast. Our 4:30 a.m. wake-up calls were prompt. Each morning the delegates dragged themselves to the coffee urns. The usual before the coffee greeting was "Morning." It only became "Good" with that first cup of coffee. As I look back on the 4:30 a.m. wake-up calls, I wince when I think that the poor West Coasters were up at 1:30 a.m. Pacific time. No wonder there were few parties to attend!

My first expedition away from the hotel started Sunday morning as 120 delegates set out to see the wonders of the National Arboretum. Our tour guides, Dr. Albert A. Piringer and Erik Neumann, were excellent. Al, a volunteer with the arboretum who headed my bus tour, enriched our botanical horizons as we visited the National Bonsai Pavilion. I was proud to see a local (Memphis) bonsai specimen on display among the American collection. Then we visited the herb garden with its three areas of display. A short walk found us at the visitor orientation building which houses a gift shop and served as the midpoint of our adventure. Behind this building is the Friendship Garden sponsored by the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. It is intended to show a succession of bloom and offered a pleasingly serene vista.

We proceeded past the large collection of boxwoods. After a brief stop at the iris and peony area, we drove through the Ben Morrison azalea plantings. Mr. Morrison produced the Glendale hybrids and in his later years, the Back Acre cultivars. In 1919 he wrote a letter to several GCA ladies, members of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, and other plant enthusiasts suggesting a meeting to discuss the formation of an organization to promote the culture of irises. Today, we know this group as The American Iris Society. Our final stop on this optional tour allowed us to enjoy the Gotelli Dwarf Conifer Collection. It was in this display garden that Bill Maryott and I coined a latin term for a vacant bed, Bedus vacadus (Maryottii) Browne. In a brief three hour period, we had a cursory view of this national treasure.

The first day of garden tours saw the convention delegates out early awakening to their fix of caffeine in the hotel lobby. The 9 buses arrived promptly and by 7 a.m., we were underway to our first iris garden. What luck! I found myself on a red bus, (vs. white or blue) and on my way to the Westminster (or as the locals pronounce it 'Westminister') City Hall. Why am I so lucky? It is my pleasant task to write about this garden. I packed a cassette tape recorder to capture quotes of other irisarians and as my first garden, my task was over quickly!

Perhaps you noted the mention of three colors of buses. This convention committee used the system of spreading the buses out over all the tour gardens all three days. While the delegates are somewhat limited in whom they see during the garden touring, this system which worked well in Indianapolis ('85) and Memphis ('89), allows the garden owner a modicum of enjoyment. Just imagine 400 to 700 delegates through your garden in 4, or worse still, 1 pulse! With the one bus system, the garden owners have the opportunity to meet the delegates and the delegates, in turn, have the

opportunity to analyze and scrutinize the guest irises without the pushing and shoving of a huge mass of people.

For those of us coming from the land of the floods where some irises have moved from place to place as they bob in the tide (Memphis this spring), we were surprised to see iris foliage that appeared totally clean of fungal leaf spot. This green, healthy foliage as a background helped to highlight the uniform signage used on all guest irises for this convention. These signs stood 18 inches high and were easily seen from across the garden. Rich Randall produced them. Dick Sparling had the huge task of lettering them. The delegate knew instantly where the guest irises were found; that is, if they had not yet found them on the garden map included in the convention booklet.

Of course, a convention garden would not be complete without snacks, cookies, and other refreshments. This Region 4 sponsored convention asked



Steve Schreiner accepts the Cook Cup for DUSKY CHALLENGER.



George Shoop is presented the Hybridizer's Medal by President Waite.

for and received the baking support of its regional membership. 19,200 cookies and cakes were collected by Rich Randall of the CCC, short for the Cookie Coordinating Committee. At the closing banquet Clarence Mahan, Convention Chairman, announced that the balance of the cookies were donated to Washington's hungry, a fitting tribute to a well run convention.

In addition to renewing friendships and devouring snacks, we came to Washington to see irises. Some delegates see only tall-bearded irises. However, this convention allowed us to see MTBs, BBs, spurias, Siberians, old favorites and Japanese (in the Nicholls Garden in Gainesville, VA.) Many DC area iris growers are actively involved in the Historical Iris Preservation Society of AIS. A Siberian, SHAKER'S PRAYER by RVP Carol Warner, won the President's Cup for Best in-region iris. The Cook Cup for Best out-of-region variety was awarded to the spectacular DUSKY CHALLENGER. This is the first time an iris has won this award twice (San Jose, '86).

Interest in flowers was not limited to irises in DC area gardens. Companion plants were everywhere. I remember fondly the beautiful Lupines in the Nicholls Garden as well as the perennial flax, larkspur, poppies, variegated daylily foliage, and healthy, virorous asparagus beds. The peonies i.e. CHOCOLATE SOLDIERS, RED CHARM; and WHITE CAP, Heuchera (Coral Bells), and the Scotch broom 'Lucky' were enchanting in the Warner Garden. In addition, she had a Franklin Tree, a beautiful Calycanthus (STRAWBERRY BUSH) and a hardy gloxinia, Incarvillea, which will not survive in Memphis. I remember an oriental touch in the Mahan garden, particularly the sweep of hostas overlooking the iris beds. I was duly impressed with huge Kentucky Coffee Trees along the driveway of the Weber garden. With the tone of North and South as an undercurrent of this convention, it is appropriate to note that the seeds from this legume were used by the Confederacy during the Civil War as a coffee substitute. Needless to say, the extremely hard seed coat destroyed the grinders and the coffee wasn't that great either. In the Lawson garden, I felt that I could camp out in the garden and not worry about going to the store. The sugar snap peas, kale, lettuce, kohlrabi and potatoes were just a sampling of food stuffs in this garden. The white and purple Campanula, yellow plum tree, and hostas further accentuated it.

Other campanion plants seen in the tour gardens were *Dictamnus albus* (Gas Plant), *Phlox paniculata* (Garden Phlox, not yet in bloom), *Dianthus*, sedums including Autumn Joy *Delphinium*, *Oenothera* (EVENING PRI-MROSE), *Dicentra* (Bleeding Hearts), *Digitalis* (Foxgloves), *Stokesia* (Stoke's Aster, not yet in bloom), *Lychnis chalcedonica* (Maltese Cross), *Stylophorum diphyllum* (Celadine Poppy), *Papaver orientale* (Oriental Poppy), *Lathyrus Latifolia* (Sweet Pea), *Aquilegia* (Columbines, ox-eye daisies, *Astilbe*, and *Bletilla* (Hardy Orchid).

In closing, I want to extend my congratulations to the Convention Commmittee, Garden Owners, and all the spouses that put up with three to four years of intense after hours volunteering. Reflecting on the Opening Dinner, Clarence, we, the convention delegates, love you and all your hard working crew, too!



Carol Warner receives the President's Cup from Ken Waite for SHAKERS PRAYER.

# THE 1991 CONVENTION

Bill Rinehart (California)

Spring in D.C. is often a layover, a reluctant touchdown, and then off to anywhere. It can be just a flyover, a waggle-of-wings in salute to a sweltering summer. In 1991 Spring graciously stayed a week in Maryland/Virginia, magically the same week in which Irisarians flocked to the nation's capital to celebrate irises. In a venue where things often get done by an exchange of favors, one has to admire our hosts. Boy, do they have powerful friends!

Bookended by the usual theme of soaring mercury, oppressive humidity, periodic rain, and punctuated frequently by lightning, this interim provided gossamer days, a perfect foil for a rainbow of irises. Inexplicably, the bloom was there. The word on the street had been that: (1) it was a bad bloom season, (2) the gardens were not as potentially exciting as the publicity made them out to be, and (3) they were from 4 to 2 weeks past peak anyway. On counts 1, 2 and 3—NOT GUILTY!!

Certain trek gardens have immediate impact and are subject to easy access in our memory banks: i.e. Perkins in Oklahoma, Pierce's in Tennessee and Drickey's in Nebraska. The Nicholls and Warner gardens certainly have this star quality, Rebert's is Gable and the Duke, and yes, the Julia Roberts of iris collections. (And for reasons which shall be explored later, the Westminster theatre in which Owings Rebert has played a leading role isn't off

Broadway either.) It was pure fun to visit with old friends, Pinnacle and Unicorn et al, at the Reberts' home. While there was a universal expression of dismay from garden visitors at having perhaps prematurely discarded older cultivars which were performing beautifully, a comparison of these with the newer irises present would more often than not lead to the conclusion that the hybridizers have made obvious improvement in both plant and flower.

The Westminster planting mentioned above will certainly be otherwise reviewed in the Bulletin. However, the concept of a public garden devoted to perpetuating and/or showcasing cultivars developed in a particular region is certainly worthy of more than one citation. Granted that such a garden would be more difficult to implement in certain regions than in others, the concept, with modifications to fit these circumstances, is worth considering.

Those devotees of the beardless iris who had been patiently attending one national "tallbearded" convention after another finally received their reward. Not since Leroy Davidson's beautiful display has the Siberian iris been featured so prominently in a garden. The slightest breeze transformed the scapes into "water bugs" skittering across the face of a pond. Joining this chorus of disciplined ballerinas were:

- ANN DASCH (Varner 77) Dappled? light-blue with a darker rim. Gold and white signal.
- AQUA WHISPERS (Miller 88) Light but clean pinkish-lavender which deepens perceptibly around small greenish signal. Showy with appropriate companions.
- BISHOP'S PAWN (Johnson 88) Wine-red petals with blue blaze and white styles.
- CATHY CHILDERSON (Johnson 88) This 29" neglecta has to have a place up front in the perennial bed. Broad blooms in gentian and bluebird blue.
- DEEP SHADE (Warburton) 72) A Siberian amoena; dark violet-blue with white standards.
- HARPSWELL HAZE (Mc Ewen 77) Light-blue with darker blue veining and styles to match the lighter petal rims.
- JEWELED CROWN (Hollingworth 87) Beautiful violet with red cast. White rays emerge from yellow base to form distinctive signal.
- LADY VANESSA (Hollingworth 86) Wine-red bitone accented by contrasting styles and signal.
- LIBERTY HILLS (Miller 88) Flaring violet-blue from WHITE SWIRL.
- MABEL CODAY (Helsley 85) Full-formed deep blue-violet with sharply contrasting white signal.
- ORVILLE FAY (Mc Ewen 70) Tall medium-blue tet. with darker veins.
- SHIRLEY POPE (Mc Ewen 79) Dark red-purple with white signal.
- SPRINGS BROOK (Warburton 88) A large blue-violet shaded in the throat. Ruffled stands flare to showcase styles.
- STEVE VARNER (Briscoe 78) Ruffled blue-lavender bitone with very erect stands. Morgan-Wood Medal '87.
- VI LUIHN (DuBose 74) Great color. Described elsewhere as cobalt violet.

Why not?

- WHITE SWIRL (Casebeer 57) Classic white self which has been rightfully awarded the Board of Directors Award Beautifully displayed against evergreens at Draycott.
- 85G2A3 (Hollingworth) Big, quite dark wine-red with an arresting raised gilt signal. Bloom somewhat schizophrenic, didn't always want to leave the comforting shade of the foliage. In Siberians can be a result of immaturity.

Convention goers who equate iris and tall bearded were not disappointed. If there were any cause for dissatisfaction, and then only fleeting, it could only be that the percentage of seedlings as compared to other guests was too low. Many of the guests were already well established in visitors' gardens. Irisarians who come to conventions to see into the future of their favorite flower probably didn't make long "watch for" lists.

- J29/9 (Stadler) is certainly a new cultivar which warrants consideration. This is a slightly bitoned deep yellow, not gold, which can be somewhat lighter on the petal edges of both standards and falls. The highlights of the blossom are the dark brown rays which form a signal under a fully-formed gold beard. Though listed as a TB, without benefit of a yardstick, it appeared to be a possible border at both the Nebraska and DC meetings.
- T-1-2 (Gatty) is another Joe Gatty pink, but not just another Gatty pink as good as they all are. This is easily the biggest and broadest of the line. Tightly furled standards are deeper blue-pink on the edges which show some lace. Falls have blue-pink on the shoulders, a small white blaze under the beard, and lighter—pink enamel all the way out to deeply fluted edges. Alas, the solo flower was so striking that no one got a bud count.
- BOOGIE WOOGIE (Nichols) is different, and it is beautiful. The flower form is reminiscent of Bernard Hamner's Wild Jasmine in that it has short rabbitear stands and almost horizontal falls with all petals gathered up in ruffles. Most perky and engaging. The standards are basically white with a little of the fall coloration faintly present on freshly open flowers. The fall ground color is a bright orchid-violet which fades in the centers but never becomes light or lifeless. The shoulders and petal edges remain in contrast on a larger scale but in much the same fashion as PERSIAN BERRY.

Cultivars by Region 4 hybridizers were doing well on their home turf:

- CRYSTAL FLAIR (Stadler 91) an icy blue-white out of RUFFLED BALLET and BUBBLING OVER. Bubble ruffled and flared as could be anticipated.
- BALLERINA PRINCESS (Stadler 91) a startlingly beautiful border bearded amoena/plicata in blue-violet on white.
- MY KATIE (Nearpass 87) an ultra-feminine peach to peach-pink blend banded ever so delicately with an orchid wash.

PINK N BLUE (Powell) a floriferous blue-pink with a clean white bib—a hot pad for a warm pink beard.

From the lower Carolina, a near neighbor is:

ANN (Lineberger 88) a frilly heavily-laced white self with yellow beard reminiscent of Neva Sexton's Happy Bride.

To the north in Pennsylvania is the source of:

PARAGRAPH (Innerst 90) essentially a white which carries elusive hints of violet. Domed stands and fluted falls.

From Rocky Mountain states come this lovely pair:

ACOMA (Magee 90) an oh so! delicate-looking charmer with the constitution of a cast-iron sink. Domed white stands encase lavender-flushed styles. Ruffled off-white falls bear a hint of lilac striations which form a dainty haze of color at the rim.

EXTRAVAGANT (Hamblen 83) a very tightly constructed lavender pink with a touch of peach rouge at the shoulder.

The California delta port city of Stockton provides:

KUNIKO (Gatty 89) a refined white of porcelain petals deeply fluted.

MY VALENTINE (Hager 87) a picoteed white with beard red in the throat to carry out the valentine theme.

WORLD CLASS (Hager 88) the cleanest most contrastly red-violet amoena ever and the largest in this pattern. Slow to increase, but patience is well rewarded.

From the banks of the bay, near San Francisco that is, comes:

COLLETTE (B. Brown 90) a sharp orchid self with a fat candy corn beard.

Where the thrill rides meet the surf in the convention city of Santa Cruz one may find a:

HONEYMOON SUITE (Ghio 91) a little longer fall petal than we usually associate with Joe and colors (pink and violet) more common to Melba Hamblen and Bernard Hammner breeding, but don't be too hasty in dismissing this entry. Ultimately, you will realize just how beautiful she is.

Hidden in Potter Valley is:

CONJURATION (Byers 89) which shouldn't be hidden for long. White petals of both stands and falls are rimmed in red-violet. The trim on the stands is subtle, but the falls are boldly bordered. A red beard adds pizzazz and with horns . . .

Among the many irises from the Pacific Northwest growing well in convention gardens were:

REGAL AFFAIR (Shoop 89) a zonal amoena. A what? The white stands set off flaring red-violet falls with striations coursing over a white blaze. Finishing touches to this ensemble are a red beard and a white rim on the fall petals.

SPRING TIDINGS (Shoop 89) a reverse bitone in shades of pink. The deep-

pink stands have an overlay of violet in the petal centers. Lighter-pink falls support a plush tangerine beard.

CLOUD BALLET (Fort 90) a white flower with a shadow of blue-violet on its edges. The styles confirm this suspicion of color.

WIDE HIPS (Fort 90) a huge white with suggestions of violet at the throat. Tightly furled standards and almost square overlapping falls no doubt suggested the dubiously commercial name. Has perfectly placed ruffles and exceptional substance.

Many Schreiners' irises were performing in faultless fashion:

CORAL SUNSET (Schreiner 90) not the largest nor the most ruffled flower, but the bright peach pink is alluring. (With apologies to Lily Gartman)

PROUD TRADITION (Schreiner 90) a large neglecta with falls of deep blue—not violet or magenta—but blue. Great show stalks based upon 2 years of observation in California. Unfortunately in the only DC garden where the cultivar was in bloom, the terminal flower was gone and only a lower flower remained. Consequently, most irisarians missed these specimens completely. However, two hovering hybridizers were overheard discussing plans to incorporate this into their already successful lines.

SILVERADO (Schreiner 87) a silver blue sensation is never ruffled nor mussed. She is just expected to be perfect.

DUSKY CHALLENGER (Schreiner 86) as a single stalk in the middle of a large bed in the Melrose Garden simply seduced everyone attending the San Jose Convention. Its presence hasn't been the same in intervening national meetings. However, this big, ruffled blue-violet or royal-purple self seemed to be at its unsurpassable best at every garden on the 1991 trek and completely overwhelmed all competition for the Cook Cup.

With such a display of blossoms, it is easy to believe that at some time or other the Goddess Iris came to Earth in the DC area, and wherever her feet touched the ground iris flowers sprang up in her footsteps.

# **CONVENTION MEDIANS 1991**

Lynda Miller (Indiana)

When I was asked to write this article it looked to be a very small job due to the earliness of the season, and it was thought that most of the medians would be gone by convention time. Many border bearded, of course, were in bloom, but to my delight, many of the late season miniature tall beardeds were in bloom along with the last flowers on a few intermediates. Because guest medians were only a few in each garden, I will not mention the individual garden they were seen in; however, the Sparling garden had bloom of every bearded class the day I visited it.

Crisply fresh down to the last flower was the IB MOSS BAY, Lankow '86, gray-green blend with a blue beard. Another Lankow IB blooming was ASK ALMA, '87, light apricot with an orange glow, still a favorite of mine. Several Ensminger IB varieties were in bloom in the various gardens. WILLOW WARE

'90, distinct sea blue fall edged white resting below icy blue-white standards. JOHN '90, was basically gold with a plum flush up the standards. The last blossom on HUBBUB, '89, was deep violet as always splashed white. Not to be missed was MORNING SHOW '88. Bright rich red, it truly glows in the sunlight.

Hard to beat for brilliance was B. Jones' '89 IB SUNNY DAWN, bright yellow-orange with orange spot on falls set off by tangerine beards. B. Jones' '90 IB CALIFORNIA STYLE reminds me of a large version of his PUMPKIN CENTER, off white with a peach blush up the midribs of the standards and large deep pumpkin spots on the falls and orange beards, almost edible. Nicely shaped and well proportioned was MISTY REFLECTIONS H. Nichols' '91, blue-violet bitone with a deeper blaze down the falls. Having a little trouble getting above the foliage was RAINDANCE KID Aitken '90, great blue self. Three IBs from Innerst were in bloom, HIGGLEDY-PIGGLEDY, '90, ice blue with yellow beards, BUNNICULA, '91, a yellow amoena with round flaring falls, and MEGGLETHROP '91, very round blossoms of light violet with darker spots.

Many Border Bearded irises were in bloom including CALICO CAT, Lankow '89, very petite blossoms, standards yellow, falls violet with eye catching plum hafts and deep yellow beards. ALLENDALE (Sparling) green cream with yellow hafts and beards. NORTH COAST (A & D Willott '89) had soft yellow standards and cream falls edged soft yellow and dotted golden-brown at the hafts. BROWNBERRY is a fitting name for Willott's '87 intro which is a brown and berry plicata, well proportioned. RUBY WILSON (Denney '89) also is a good proportioned BB of rich red-violet. And so is LADY CREAM (Boswell '89) in cream with a yellow laced edge. Not to be overlooked was PEASANT DANCE (Helsley '85) Standards of buff yellow, heavily dotted wine falls.

BATIK (Ensminger '86) looked too large to be a BB, but its wild purple and white splashes still catch the eye. SONJA'S SELAH (Ensminger '89) was an eye pleasing color of pinkish white with huge deep flesh pink spots set off by tangerine and white beards, great flaring falls. PARAGRAPH (Innerst '90) was white with heavy ruffling including the stylearms, at the hafts were gold-tan marks. Two BB introductions of H. Nichols attract plicata fans with heavy deep violet marking on AEGEAN WALTZ '87 and violet marked CASTLE STRONGHOLD '88. BLACKBEARD (Weiler '89) was a little too tall, but what a striking dark blue beard on a light blue self!

Now for the Miniature Tall Beardeds: many K. Fisher varieties were blooming. Among them was CAROL LEE '89, standards yellow, falls wine edged yellow. OZARK SKY '90, deep violet plicata with a little dotting, great branching. ZULA '90, tan-yellow with sand plic marks. FROSTED VELVET '89 an improved CONSUMATION, standards are white, falls dark purple with white edge and haft marks. STRIPED PANTS '89 an appropriate name, standards of yellow while the falls are wildly striped red-brown. Fisher had two seedling MTBs guested. 88-5 was a lovely violet bitone, the falls a velvet purple. The other was named OZARK EVENING a much too large blossom of pale apricot pink.

I was impressed by PETITE MONET (Steele '90). This MTB appeared to be putting on a second wave of bloom, blossoms were dotted and plic marked violet. LITTLE JAZZMAN (Guild '89) a wine red violet was set off by its gold beards. Last, but my pick as the best median of the convention, is T. Varner's '91 introduction DESERT SHIELD. Standards were rich golden yellow, falls a velvety smooth red-black with no noticeable haft marks and gold beards adding just the right contrast. Much prettier than the name would imply and destined to go far.

As you can see there were many medians to see at the convention.

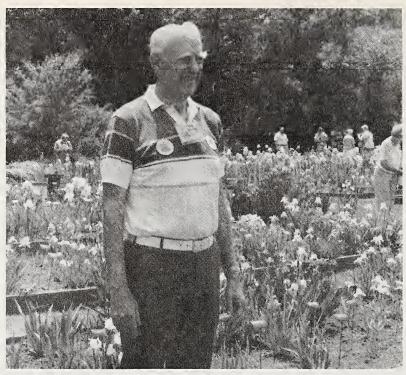
#### Some Popular Siberian Irises Seen in Washington, D.C.



**Aqua Whispers** 



Liberty Hills



Dick Sparling

# THE GREEN BOX IRIS GARDENS

Mrs. Walter A. Machulak (Wisconsin)

Ah, the marvelous diversity of convention gardens! The Green Box Iris Garden of Meredith and Dick Sparling gave iris gardeners yet another idea as to how irises might be grown.

When he first moved to this property, Mr. Sparling felt the area might be too wet to grow irises properly, so he immediately began building boxes to raise the beds and the name "The Green Box Garden" was introduced. Williamsburg was the theme chosen when Mr. Sparling began naming the iris beds. Now some twenty years later the green boxes, the rock garden, the water-way and ponds all blend together beautifully creating a setting for an unbelievable number of different irises.

The Sparlings were greeting garden visitors at the bus stop in front of their home seemingly assisted by the large, stuffed Robert Rabbit on the front lawn all decked out in his striped overalls and red bandana.

The Princess Ann bed contained many Siberians, two that were especially interesting, BRAVE COMRADE (J. Ritchie '80) with red-violet standards and slightly darker falls and EARLY BLUEBIRD (McEwen '68), a blue self with a yellow, black and white blaze.

The Prince David bed was way past peak, but VIOLET ROSE (Rawdon '79), SLIM JIM (F. Williams'78), JOETTE (F. Williams '77), ICE FAIRY (Witt '62), JOLEE AIRE (Guild '79) and TEENY BIKINI (Storey '76), all MTB's, were very happily growing there. With standards of lavender-blue and dark-violet falls, BLUE TRIMMINGS (Welch '65) might have been the oldest introduction in this

bed but certainly they were the most appealing. A nice clump of BAYARDERE (O. Brown '61), a BB of metallic-brown with some lace on the edges, was the outstanding winner in the Prince David bed.

The blackest iris I had ever seen was at this convention: a TB, BEFORE THE STORM (Innerst '88), a very black self with a black beard. On looking closely, one notices that the beard is slightly tipped with bronze.

TOPSY TURVY (Welch '63) was loaded with buds. It may be an oldie, but this MTB with deep yellow standards and pure white falls deserved four stars for its bud count when I saw it. And the vivid yellow of SPANISH COINS (Witt '76), a nice MTB, would not let me pass without taking a second look.

In the line of pink amoenas Niswonger's CORAL JOY '89 was demanding some attention, a really neat-looking bloom!

A 1991 Stahly introduction, STARLIT VELVET, was a deep, deep purple TB with an attractive white pattern around the deep purple beards. One look at this lovely flower wasn't enough.

In the waterfall garden next to the Sparling home was ANNICK (McEwen '86), an outstanding clump. Though it was only about 12-14 inches tall, the dark violet-blue coloration was strikingly beautiful.

There was an age difference in the introduction growing in the John Murry bed dating back to HONORABILE introduced by Mr. Lemon in 1840 and SAND PRINCESS an MTB by Mr. Fisher in 1983. The years in between were represented by ORNATE PAGEANT (Welch '74) an MTB with yellow standards and red-brown falls with a yellow border; DISCO JEWEL (Guild '77) a brownish-red blend MTB; BHUTAN GLORY (Guild '79) a red-violet MTB; and SNOW FIDDLER (Dunbar '70) an MTB with pure white standards and white falls with deep navy blue lines and white beard.

The Stafford bed also contained a great age difference in its contents from the 1929 introduction of KALEIDOSCOPE to the delightful BUMBLEBEE DEELITE (Norrick '85) the perky MTB with yellow standards and maroon falls edged in yellow. Sherwin - Wright's KOHANKIE '15 looked as modern as some of today's introductions. A dainty MTB LADY OF CHARM (T. Varner '86) with light yellow standards and falls with a light purple wash was worthy of its name. A huge clump of VIBRANT ROSE (Witt '87) was outstanding with its rosy red, golden tan blend colorations. And who could possibly miss STRIPED PANTS (K. Fisher '87), the attractive yellow flower with the brown stripes?

JOSEPH'S COAT (Katkamier '30) was probably the senior citizen in the Campbell bed, but the thoroughly modern MAGGIE ME DARLIN' (Guild '84) was outstanding with golden tan standards and falls of red with a slight edge of gold. DESERT QUAIL (Roberts '58) would wait a day or two before it would show all of its cream and white with tannish stitching, as it was full of uopened buds the day of my visit. A very tailored white plicata stitched in light violet, CHATTER LINE (Rowlan '79) also added its charm to this interesting iris collection of MTB's. COPPER STRIKE (Street '68), appropriately named, was a very good companion plant next to JOSEPH'S COAT, and we must not forget



Sparling Garden

GRANDPA'S GIRL (Fisher '83), the charming MTB with yellow standards and red-violet falls edged in yellow.

In the river beds leading from the house were plantings of i. PSEUDACORUS, i. VIRGINICA, i. BASTAROII and i. FULVA. Off to one side watching guests eating cookies was Ruby Rabbit with a big cotton tail, a gingham dress, and a sun bonnet. The basket she held completed the picture of a little girl rabbit stepping out of the pages of a child's story book.

As the sun shone on RED DAZZLER (Hale '69) this Louisiana looked like a spot of red velvet in the river bed. In another garden NORTH COAST (Willott '89), a ruffled BB with light golden brown standards and creamy white falls edged with light golden brown, looked very nice as did Ensminger's BB SONJA'S SELAH '89, a near pink amoena.

Up to this point you may have thought there were no tall bearded irises in this garden, but many varieties were represented. A good example was TARGET (McWhirter '88), a lightly laced deep-purple and RAMONA HOWARD, McWhirter's 1990 introduction. This planting appeared fresh and crisp despite the afternoon winds and heat. At this site the seedling M84-885T (Dunn) had a little difficulty in developing, but the flower was lovely.

HARVEST KING (Schreiner '90) was a good example of what TB's are all about. The lacy light tan-brown standards and flaring golden-tan falls were well placed on sturdy stalks. This would be a fine addition to any iris grower's collection. A possible show stalk was an inky purple iris called NIGHT RULER (Schreiner '90), but if you are into flamingo pink, SWEET MUSETTE (Schreiner

'86) is for you. This rather unusual combination of flamingo pink standards and rose falls is an eye-catcher.

Space age iris lovers will want to keep seedling F71-3 (Byers) on file. The unusually large spoons on a smoky lavender bloom made quite a novel combination. Another combination of pale ecru standards, greenish tan falls, violet lines on the hafts and spoons is THORNBIRD (Byers '88).

The mixed colors of an artist's pallet could be compared to the colors of Keppel's 1990 introduction ABSTRACT ART. Orange, orange-amber, golden orange, rusty orange, red orange and purplish rose are all combined and dusted with gold to create a wildly patterned plicata. More subdued, yet very fresh, were the pale yellows of JULIE STANTON (Jeffries '91).

Proving their dependability were TITAN'S GLORY (Schreiner's '81) and SOUTHLAND GRAPE (Burch '78) as well-grown clumps were putting on quite a showing. Nearby was a fresh-looking clump of BLACK FLAG (Stahly '83), a deep violet beauty, and if you would like some color impact in your garden, look for Messick's seedling M87-65 to do the job.

In the Gloucester bed demanding some attention was MASTER TOUCH (Schreiner '80)—truly a showpiece in this garden. The stalk of ruffled purple flowers would have been a blue ribbon winner without a doubt. In the same bed was LORILEE (Schreiner '81), a soft lavender, very feminine iris, and right in the center of this same bed was AMIGO (Williamson '34) looking as crisp and perky as a yesterday's introduction.

In the hillside garden, dwarf conifers were placed with great care and planning. Among them were miniature roses and species irises. Sizable clumps of i. CROATICA, i. CRETICA, i. APHYLLA, and i. LUTESCENS were doing very well in the spots chosen for them.

BIT O'MAGIC (Miller '91), a BB, completed the picture and added a little pizzazz. The light-pink ruffled beauty splattered with dark-purple markings occupied a special spot where it could be enjoyed by anyone either coming to or going from the garden.

It was obvious the Sparlings had spent many hours preparing their garden for this convention. We thank them for their efforts and for letting us enjoy this beauty with them. It has been my pleasure to share these notes with you, the reader.



Westminster Garden



Rebert Garden



Weber Garden



Owings and Doris Rebert

# REBERT GARDEN

Lucy Burton (Massachusetts)

Doris and Owings Rebert's Iris Haven Garden was advertised as having one of the largest collections of historic and older irises in the East. It lived up to the reputation, as the view from the bus window showed many iris beds climbing a hill. People scattered among the different beds looking for old floral fields. A glance at the garden map indicated that the guest beds were over the hill's crest, so I donned mental blinkers and made my way to the top. The bloom was past peak and there was some wind damage, but the size of the clumps showed the excellent growing conditions.

The blue plicata MTB, OZARK SKY (Fisher '90), occupied a corner spot, its orange beards glowing. DRESDEN DELIGHT (Hummel '88), soft lemon yellow TB with a brighter beard, has some white veining on the falls. Don Morrison's TB seedling, BLACK RIVER, was gleaming with the morning backlighting. It has purple standards, black falls and blue-violet beards. Another seedling grew nearby, ROBE OF ROYALTY (Hedgecock), red violet-tinted purple with bronze beards.

In spite of its being late in the season, two IBs still had bloomstalks. They were Carol Lankow's MOSS BAY looking more tan than usual with yellow beards, blue at the tip and MISTY REFLECTIONS (Nichols '91) a bitone approaching neglecta coloration with blue beards. JUNGLE PRINCESS (Aitken '89), a TB, wasn't listed in the book—but the tan and bright red violet variegata was showing off. Planted side by side were two Paul Black TBs. SIGHS AND WHISPERS ('90) has white standards and falls edged and washed purple. TROPICAL FRUIT ('89) is strawberry, washed orange at the hafts and bright orange beards.

WORLD CLASS (Hager '88), amoena with lavender beards changing to yellow in the throat, features double budded sockets. I have a note, "multistalks" on YESTERDAY (Lineberger '88), a lavender blend sporting orange/yellow beards. SKY SURF (Magee '89) was just opening white buds. BOOGIE WOOGIE (Nichols) is another amoena, its falls fading to light lavender as the flower ages. A cloud of stalks covered MTB plicata PETITE MONET (Steele '90) which was the runner-up for the President's Cup awarded the best host region iris. As I turned away from the guest beds, I was greeted by large clumps of gleaming white Tradescantia snuggled under the trees.

Traveling downhill was upbeat all the way; there was so much so see. I came upon the light blue Siberian, BLUE RIDGE (Cleveland '35), surrounded by lavender spurred columbine. Further down the hill past the chicken house was a huge clump of white Siberian ANNIVERSARY (Brummitt '69). Large and huge seem to be the operative words for plants in the main garden.

Red violet TB FIRESTONE (Varner '76) still had bloomstalks. PORCELAIN BALLET (Black '84) is soft apricot with tangerine beards. I sat on a handy bench and studied Tompkins irises BITTERSWEET GOLD ('86) and SPRING SHARING ('88) a lavender amoena, gold beards, with nicely spaced buds on the stalks. The ivory and blue PERFECT COUPLE (Ghio '84) was elegant. I enjoyed the huge (here we go again) clump of RED LION (Hager '86). Turning around I said "hello" to LILAC WINE (Blyth '78), its beige standards opening to show the yellow and purple style arms and falls appearing brick red in the morning light. I appreciated the waist high stalks. I'm a short person, and it was nice not having to stand on tiptoe to enjoy the plant. The smaller flowered MEDIEVAL (Maryott '83) is a red-violet on white plicata with heavier shadings on the standards.

Since there was a greal deal more to see, I moved on toward the house. Near the porch was a bed of pink Heuchera and bleeding heart along with "alba", the white bleeding heart. In among the next bed of Heuchera and tall columbine was the older MTB JOSEPH'S COAT showing variations on the variegata pattern, mainly in the standards which could be half cream and half yellow. The bed included HONORABILE, the 1840 MTB, with yellow standards and red falls which seemed to be a more solid red than in New England.

I admired a great umbrella shaped cut leaf Japanese Maple next to a spruce gigantic enough to catch Paul Bunyan's attention. Owings Rebert recalled that he had bought the maple as a much smaller plant from a garden center. It has since grown magnificently, and he was offered several thousand dollars for it. He decided that he preferred the tree. Owings also pointed out GAJUS (Goos & Koenemann '06) as the second oldest acquisition in the iris garden. His uncle had obtained it from a neighbor who was the family doctor. Other historic plants were INNOCENZA (Lemon 1854), white with lavender veining, and the variegata PFAUENAUGE (1906) labeled under the translation "PEACOCK'S EYE."

Again there were the more modern TBs; ROMAN LOVER (Burch '81) red violet bitone, pink FROSTY JEWELS (Burch '77), and BREAD AND WINE (C.

Smith) resembling a white and pinky-purple WABASH. Two classic black irises are different in hue, LICORICE STICK (Schreiner '60) deep purple, and Plough's STUDY IN BLACK ('67) red-black with strong stalks. FLUTED LIME (Noyd '66) is citron green; ON LINE (Schreiner '80) a bitoned lavender having a darker line through the center of the falls. Dark purple LORD JEFF (Waite '81) comes from Region 1.

A noisy catbird was making remarks as I took notes on LOUVOIS (Cayeux '36) dressed in white standards and shimmering silky red violet falls setting off the gold beards. Perky rusty red TALL CHIEF (Deforest '55) glittered in the sun, and PARADISE PINK (Lapham '49) was just opening its flowers on a forest of stalks.

TEA APRON (El Dorado '61) is near BB size, a nicely formed plicata with wide white beards. I could understand why it turns up in many BB pedigrees. —It was pleasant to come across DARK FURY (Luihn '62) which pops up in TB ancestry. AMIGO (Williamson '34) with its light standards and darker falls with a light rim is turning up more and more in historic collections. Most of the history in the garden was gathered by mental comparison of different plants, but a small round bed was labeled "Progress in Pinks." Here the lilac shaded pink, VANITY FAIR (Hall '51) grew with the clear pinks of the 1970's PINK HORIZON (Schreiners) and 1980's VANITY (Hager). The progress was in form as well as color.

There was obviously too much to see in one trip. I didn't have a chance to view the "Dykes Bed" containing English and French winners in addition to the American ones. As the bus filled with cheerful people pulled away, I folded my notebook and realized that a score of visits to this garden would have been better.

# AN ABUNDANCE OF BLOOM, THE WESTMINSTER CITY HALL

Jim Browne (Tennessee)

Located in the small, quiet community of Westminster, Maryland, the City Hall Garden featured irises from Region 4 hybridizers. North Carolina is represented by Loleta Powell of Princeton, J.D. Stadler of Reidsville, Lloyd Zurbrigg, Alice Bouldin, and B.J. Brown. Virginia's hybridizers include Clarence Mahan and George Crossman. Dr. Charlie Nearpass, Dick Sparling and Eugene Berger represent Maryland.

A project of the Francis Scott Key Iris Society, this 40 foot by 15 foot display garden set on a gentle hillside features immaculately grown, leafspot-free irises. The first iris to capture by attention is INNOCENCE ABROAD (Powell '83) a pristine, pure white with horizontally flared falls producing perky blossoms on exceptional branching. The hafts are clean.

When asked of his opinion, Don Peterson of Nebraska says, "There is a tremendous lot of color and they are well grown." He continues saying "there

are some very interesting ones, in fact, there are so many, that a person can miss many of them by not looking carefully enough."

When asked of her favorite iris, Doris Dehaan of Michigan listed her favorites in order: INNOCENCE ABROAD, PINK 'N BLUE (Powell '82), RIPPLED BRASS (Powell, reg. '76), TIMELY TREASURE (Burger '79), and DREAM ROMANCE (Burger '78).

Keith McNames of Detroit lists HAUNTING MYSTERY (Powell '83) as his favorite with CELESTIAL DREAM (Stadler '84) as his runnerup. HAUNTING MYSTERY, also a favorite of Jimmy Jones of California, is a purple bitone with lighter purple standards and dark purple, flaring falls with mustard beards. CELESTIAL DREAM, a border, has pure white standards and falls with a wash of blue along the edges of the near horizontal falls.

Bobbie Shepard, a Floridian turned Arizonan and chairman of the Phoenix convention in 1987, comments that "you have a blend of old and new and it is just very interesting to look at . . . you don't often see the old ones like this . . . and they are different to me . . . they are varieties that we haven't seen."

Another nice variety showing up well is CAROLINA BLUE (Powell '82) a tall medium blue with white beards. On this variety Sterling Innerst comments, "Nice branching . . . nice blue . . . nice bloom."

Among the interesting plants in the area of the garden is a huge, mature Ginkgo tree, two newly planted weeping purple beeches, an eight foot tall Weigela, a large bush honeysuckle loaded with small trumpet shaped blossoms, and a mock orange (*Philadelphus*) in full bloom. Some of the companion plants include carnations, Autumn Joy sedum, and a white gas plant.

This small garden is an example of what two hardworking iris enthusiasts can do with their spare time. The Reberts, Owings and Doris, as their full-time endeavor, maintain their own private garden with more than 2000 irises.

# WEBER GARDEN

John H. Burton (Massachusetts)

The Weber Garden was our first stop after lunch on day two. The bus dropped us off at the driveway shaped like an eyebolt shaded by huge white pines giving a relative cool. The house and refreshments were situated on the left and on the right a garden with small pond. The driveway area was enclosed by shrubs and hedges. At the top of the eye was an opening in the hedges leading to the guest beds. These were situated on the right (east) side of a north sloping grass field, apparently surrounded by mature woods with a gap at the north end. An apple tree near the north end of the field was visited by a bluebird though I could see no nest hole or nest box.

The convention booklet was extremely enthusiastic on the garden's potential to be spectacular. There were over 700 guests planted here in "new ground." The thought of opening a grass field for seven hundred plants scares me after only hosting 110 medians in '89. In a normal year it might not be difficult, but the last two years have not been normal. Some plants especially Siberians seemed to have trouble here, but a late year might still have given a great display. The open field site with no relieving shade, meant that a high percentage of the TB, MTB, and BB were beyond their best condition, though plenty of color remained.

This garden was the first in which I could check the behavior of the children I had sent here so the median area was my first stop. Both plants were growing well in spite of the Washington area heat. SDB's had all gone past. Among the MTB's I had not seen before were two of W. Terry Varner's, DESERT SHIELD '91, and Seedling R-302. The former features near black red falls with prominent orange beard and strong yellow standards. The latter displays lemon standards and white falls with plications on the shoulders. Ken Fisher's ZULA '90, reminds me of SAND PRINCESS in darker ground coloring.

Among the Siberians growing here, Anna Mae Miller's SWIRLING LAV-ENDER '84 had a large clump of erect stalks, flowers white with lavender shadings. Carol Warner's SHAKERS PRAYER was doing well here as in all gardens in which I saw it. A polychrome sibirica.

The role of soil and climate as well as age of bloom was evident when comparing TB notes to registration descriptions. I noted Niswonger's INDIAN CERAMICS '86 as tan and pale lavender while the registration says brown and bright violet. I liked the stalk and counted 9 buds. FRENCH PERFUME, Moller '90 attracted my curiosity whether it did smell, it did faintly, even in the heat. This blue amoena was also very pale, the beard gave a visual effect of lemon though the registration says white tipped yellow. A seedling that stood out, perhaps by contrast with it's neighbors, was Stahly 86-5 a good black red. George Shoop's REGAL AFFAIR '89 and SPRING TIDINGS '89 stood at the head of row 3D. REGAL AFFAIR is a striking bright blue amoena with a tangerine beard sitting on an island of white. The blue border band on the standards and white band on the falls added interest. SPRING TIDINGS is an attractive lavender and pink blend with, again, a tangerine beard.

The lure of shade and a cool lemonade drew me back to the house with its tree and shrub accents. Especially notable was a thread leaf maple. The sound of woodpeckers was abundant there and while listening to my comments recorded on microcassettes, I could hear sparrow songs I hadn't noted at the time of recording. Not enough was recorded to give the species with certainty.



A scene from the Nicholls Garden

# THE NICHOLLS GARDEN

Judy Hollingworth (Michigan)

After a visit to Diana and Michael's garden a couple of years ago Barney Hobbs phoned and told me about this wonderful place—he had never seen plants growing better anywhere! With such a buildup I was ready to be impressed.

Our first view was of an imposing two story white house, planted along its base with coral azaleas. Blue ajuga flanked the path leading to a front door with sentinal hollies on either side. The front garden was serene with a large lawn and was tastefully landscaped to complement the home. At one corner was a free-form bed planted with the guest Siberians. Some worthy of attention were Carol Warner's SHAKER'S PRAYER ('90) with species *sibirica* form and interesting red-violet standards and lilac veining on the falls. It was an imposing clump with the flowers held airily above the foliage. LIBERTY HILLS (A.M. Miller '88) was just opening but was a lovely clump showing clean midblue flowers above perfect swordlike foliage. RILL (Bellagamba '91), a dappled blue with icy blue style arms was novel and attractive and Anna Mae Miller's AQUA WHISPERS ('88) a pinky-lavender with violet blue veining and pleasing form was another good clump.

Through an evergreen screen, we entered the back garden. What a gourmet feast! Hostas, azaleas, liriope, peonies, oriental poppies—all in healthy profusion—roses and clematis smothering wooden trellises and a blood red lupine that knocked everyone's socks off.

The irises, of course, were also in great profusion. As true gourmets never overindulge, I will offer you just a taste of these delights.

The familiar refrain of gardeners: "You should have been here last week" was unfortunately true where the bearded irises were concerned, but there

was still plenty to see. Three Border Beardeds were looking very good: BATIK (Ensminger '86), Willott's '87 introduction, BROWNBERRY, a cream and brown with a yellow beard that always seems to make an excellent clump and MOSTEST (Durrance '90) a hot! hot! yellow, was very arresting. PETITE MONET (Steele '90) a lovely MTB in creamy white with blue-violet stitching was also putting on a good show, and, according to my advisors, was perfectly representative of its class. Some TB's I liked were Sterling Innerst's RUFFLED FEATHERS ('90), with light brown standards and white falls rimmed with a darker brown and lemon highlights; Frank Carr's DAWN'S EDGE ('89) was a well branched, lemony yellow with a darker edge.

Siberians were well represented in Diana's own plantings. SHIRLEY POPE (McEwen '79) was showing off a profusion of lovely purple velvety flowers and Bee Warburton's SPRINGS BROOK ('89) was a beautiful white with blue violet veins and shading, surely one of the best new Siberians.

A two-tier pond complete with croaking bull frogs had been recently landscaped with the variegated form of *I. laevigata*, and familiar favorite, Louisiana ILA NUNN (Arny '67), yellower than usual some people opined because of the lack of sun. To complete the laden table there was *I. ensata Enkaisyuu*, interesting versicolors grown from SIGNA seed and another old favorite *I. laevigata albopurpurea Colchesterensis* a six petal flower with its dramatic contrast of purple and white.

But now to nouvelle cuisine and a confession from a beardless iris afficionado. My favorite iris in the garden was a TB, THORNBIRD (Byers '90). I can usually ignore the space age types, but this one was neat; a color which I would not attempt to describe but which Monty calls pale ecru and greenish tan. The violet beard and especially the violet horns actually enhanced this flower with their wonderful contrast. Very floriferous and a huge clump; definitely a winner.

The stories about Diana's garden were not exaggerated; this lady has talent! I'm sure her garden would be worth a considerable detour at any time of the year. Three stars in my guidebook—I was impressed. Thank you Diana and Michael for a great afternoon.

# THE COX GARDEN

Ardi Kary (Arizona)

When our bus pulled up in front of the Cox Garden, it was very obvious that Charles and Celeste Cox are very sharing people. They have planted and cared for hundreds of irises in the median next to the Columbia Pike. This planting has brought much pleasure to the thousands of motorists who drive past. I'm sure many people look forward to driving the route every springtime when the irises are in bloom. Oftentimes when the irises are blooming, people stop their cars and inquire about them. Many of these travelers come back during their more leisure time and enjoy the irises and other blooms.

The median strip of irises is just a teaser for the Cox Garden itself. The Coxes began working and loving this beautiful setting 40 years ago. The house is a very gracious one with a winding slate walkway leading up to the front door. This look is carried through with a slate roof and also a slate patio next to the back door overlooking the sloping lawns and gardens. Their favorite time of day for enjoying this patio is in the afternoon. Perhaps that is the time of day when the garden work is done and they can sit back and truly enjoy the view around them.

It seems impossible that so many different varieties of plants, shrubs and trees, as well as interesting walkways, could exist on a mere three-quarters of an acre. Azaleas, coral bells, mountain laurel, clematis, several kinds of holly, roses, quince, field poppies, bleeding heart, Virginia bluebells, rhododendrons, Korean lilac, forget-me-nots, columbines, hydrangeas, pots of seeds, and an herb garden next to the patio with lemon mint, rosemary, basil, and many other fragrant herbs are all growing in addition to their collection of tall beardeds, Siberians, Louisianas and Japanese roof irises that are spread throughout the yard. This is just a small list of plants that can be seen in their garden.

The leaf covered walkway through the shady trees with rock terraced planting areas gives the illusion of being in a natural wooded area. The winding path began at street level and led to the lower level of the garden.

Yes, this is much more than an iris garden. It is a garden filled with tranquility, beauty, love and ever changing wonders. With this many different plants, there is always something to look forward to.

Thank you, Charles and Celeste for sharing your garden with us and with the many people in your community who visit your garden each and every spring.





Dianna and Mike Nicholls



Joanne and Dick Murphy



Dr. Don Spoon

# **GLENCAIRN IRIS GARDEN (Murphy)**

Margaret Sutton (California)

As luck would have it, our visit to the Murphy garden was our first garden visit of our first day of touring the gardens open for viewing at the National. One benefit of this was that we were not overwhelmed by having already seen a large number of irises; one drawback was that we were working on jet lag and had also arisen at 5:00 a.m. that morning, which was in reality 2:00 a.m., of course. However, as we disembarked, we could see immediately that at this particular convention Mother Nature had cooperated and there were going to be plenty of irises to view, which effectively woke us thoroughly.

Perhaps one of the greatest surprises for a person who had never been in this part of the country was the profusion of magnificient peonies blooming everywhere. At Glen Cairn Farm most of the guest irises were located in a long curved bed paralleling the driveway. In this bed the irises were interplanted with Bradford Pear trees, daylilies, and the most lovely peonies we had ever seen. Immediately behind the welcome sign could be seen a mass of beautiful white peonies, taking the viewer's eye even before the irises began.

One of the first irises to announce its presence was RAPTURE IN BLUE (Schreiners '90 TB). This is a lovely, heavily ruffled pale blue with a pale blue to white beard. As we progressed up the curving bed, Innerst seedling 3211-5 (TB) was blooming profusely. It is a soft pink, heavily ruffled and laced, with a soft pink-orange beard below which is a small white blaze; altogether lovely. BALLERINA PRINCESS (Stadler '91 TB) was also outstanding; it is a heavily ruffled white with a 1/4" blue violet edge on the falls and a yellow beard.

Another delightful surprise to an out-of-region visitor was the variety and number of Siberian irises to be seen in this and indeed most of the convention gardens. Coming from an area where Siberians have to be nurtured with great care, we were impressed with the vigor and generally healthy appearance of this species. Of particular interest here were LADY VANESSA (Hollingworth '86) with light wine red standards, feathered styles, and medium wine red ruffled falls. Another Hollingworth Siberian of note was PAS-DE-DEUX ('88), with white standards and styles and lemon yellow falls with faint green veining. Perhaps the most outstanding clump of Siberians in full bloom in this garden was that of CATHY CHILDERSON (D. Johnson '88); the standards were gentian blue with darker blue veining with the falls being the same darker blue with veining; the styles had an interesting touch of turquoise on the ribs; the form was wide and ruffled, making a pleasing mass of blooms.

In the main garden was one more row of guest irises, which may have been overlooked by some of the convention goers still enjoying the long row along the driveway. As the first whistle blew to warn of our impending departure, we rushed over to view this last row, and in doing so discovered a bonus in the form of MESMERIZER (Byers '91 TB SA). It has been some time now since a space-age iris was acceptable merely because it had horns, spoons, or

flounces. Some of the more recent introductions are lovely irises in their own right as indeed they should be, with the added embellishment of these appendages which enhance the overall beauty of the flower. Such is MES-MERIZER. It is a lovely ruffled white with flaring form; its tangerine red beard ends in huge uplifting frilly white flounces that truly enhance this iris whose form and style will delight even the most critical of judges. Space-agers have indeed come a long way.

There were more irises beckoning, but the second whistle blew and our departure was imminent. With regret for not having time to fully enjoy the complete collection of Dykes Medal winners plus the AM winners since 1972 to be found at Glen Cairn, we boarded the bus. As we left for the next garden, thoroughly awake now, we reflected that Glen Cairn Farm was a wonderful way to begin our garden tours, boding well for having a wonderful time and seeing many irises.

# **HEYDEN OBSERVATORY GARDENS**

Hooker Nichols (Oklahoma)

The Heyden Observatory Gardens, Don Spoon caretaker, are located in front of the Observatory located on the campus of Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. Resting atop a cliff, several hundred feet above the Key Bridge, this small but magnificent garden has something for everyone. There are beautiful mature trees, a lily pond, statuary, and English-type cottage, and 40 separate flower beds. Six of the largest beds are equipped with systems of irrigation ditches lined with brick. Don Spoon can water deeply just by placing hoses in the ditches. Don and his son, Brian, built these beds and ditches using 20,000 bricks, 1000 cobblestones, and 1000 rocks.

The gardens contain over 1000 named tall bearded irises, 180 standard dwarf bearded irises, 150 Japanese irises, 35 species irises, numerous guest irises, plus over 100 top-rated rose bushes, along with dahlias and hybrid lilies. The gardens come alive with pansies, wild columbine, delphiniums, hollyhocks, and foxglove. The Oriental poppies were very beautiful during the iris tours. Don had bloomed over 2,000 first year seedlings during and before the iris convention tours started.

These gardens were well past peak bloom and there were not many irises to be seen the day we toured the gardens. Those which were still outstanding were VIGILANTE (Schreiners '91) with its tan yellow standards over maroon-brownish-black falls with tan yellow beards. I counted 14 buds on three separate stalks, but the flowers were a bit on the small size of the large spectrum. Another Schreiner iris that was equally as beautiful was SUPREME SULTAN (Schreiner '88). Here the flowers were simply huge! This is the type of variegata that I like to see. Ruffled golden ochre standards and velvety smooth mahogany-red falls. Again the beards are nearly the same color as the standards.

MAGHAREE (Blyth '86) from Down Under has to be one of the most overlooked cultivars on the current market. No one has ever grown this uniquely colored iris who has not fallen in love with it. It can best be described as a near salmon-pink amoena with slightly darker beards. Branching and bud count are superb. This lovely jewel was making a beautiful clump showing in this garden. G'DAY MATE (Maryott '87) with its heavily ruffled blue-violet flowers made many visitors stop and take a second look. HONKY TONK BLUES (Schreiners '88) could not go unnoticed with its ruffled flowers blended dark blue suffused white throughout. Truly an outstanding performer throughout our nation.

MAHARISHI (Keppel '90) looked as beautiful here in this garden as it had in my home garden. A beautiful blending of peach and violet-capucine plicata shades with personality galore. CONJURATION (Byers '89) caused the cameras to click. Its flowers have white standards and falls bordered and suffused blue-violet sporting fuzzy tangerine-blue-white beards. Well branched and many buds. One of the finest space-agers on the current market.

HILO SURF (Durrance '90) simply stopped people in their tracks with its ruffled white flowers and well branched stalks with slightly yellow-white beards. A worthy addition to the white class of garden irises. FROSTED VELVET (K. Fisher '89) really lived up to its reputation with its white standards and purple falls displayed on fantastic stalks. One of the best Miniature Tall Bearded cultivars found today. KUNIKO (Gatty '89) with its laced, ruffled white flowers with yellow beards looked good enough to eat. A fine performer in several convention gardens, especially this one. RUTH ELAINE (J. Hoage '89) certainly looked beautiful with its clear yellow flowers and well branched stalks. A bright spot in the whole convention garden.

ANN (E. Lineberger '88) was still another ruffled white iris with deep yellow beards. Truly a fine iris for the garden. FRENCH PERFUME (Moller '90) made me take notice with its ruffled pure white standards and light violet-blue falls. Its fragrance was outstanding. HALO IN YELLOW (Niswonger '89) continues to be one of my favorite irises with its flowers being white edged completely in dark yellow. A really neat flower. HARVEST KING (Schreiners '90) stood out on tall, well-branched stalks having a reverse brown-tan bitone shading. A color which holds well in the hot afternoon sun.

These were the outstanding bearded irises seen in this truly unique convention garden.



Rosalie Figge

# FIGGE GARDEN

Betty Burch (Alabama)

MAINSTAY (Not the Iris) is the term used by our bus captain to describe the owner of this lovely garden. Down a quiet, tree-canopied street is Rosalie Figge's residence, which has only a few irises growing in the front yard. One's attention is quickly drawn to a blue iris rug, tabbed "Rainbow Connection," a garden marker plaque reading "At each season, one sees only part of the symphony—just one movement. Flower gardening is an ephemeral art, like music, like dance," a too-pretty-to-use garbage can with colorful tall bearded irises painted on it, and a chair carved from a tree trunk. When we arrived in back of the home, there was a beautiful sight to behold: rhododendron, pansies, poppies, impatiens, roses, berries, clematis, daisies, and IRISES.

Irises, many kinds and varieties, were growing in beds arranged for easy viewing and arranged in alphabetical order by names. A rose entwined fence formed the background for the bearded guest bed. Choice irises included:

LATIN HIDEAWAY, TB, Nichols '86, S-buff, F-red, 10 buds SPRING TIDINGS, TB, Shoop '89, S-lavender pink, F-lighter, ruffled CRYSTAL FLAIR, TB, Stadler '91, Pale blue, dark veins, white beard ADOBE ROSE, TB, Ernst '88, S-cream, F-red mauve, unusual color WELCH'S REWARD, MTB, Hall '88, S-yellow, F-red purple FROSTED VELVET, MTB, Fisher '89, S-white, F-royal purple LADY BE GOOD, TB, Robinson '87, lacy coral pink TRIPLE WHAMMY, TB, Hager '90, S-yellow, F-lavender, purple horns

The Figge Garden included specialized beds. The Dykes beds: English, French, and American, were blooming, both old and new irises; DREAM

LOVER, '77 American Dykes, was lovelier than ever with three open blooms; ANNIVERSARY, '79 English Dykes winner, formed an outstanding Siberian clump with 20 stems. LOUVOIS was very colorful and bright in the Antique Bed. An eye-catching clump of VANITY was outstanding in the Old Favorites Bed; included in this bed also was a heart-shaped plaque, labeling greenery well known to all gardeners "Weeds." One of the best irises in the Rebloomer Bed was a border FACE POWDER, Moores '79, a pink perfect border-sized plant and blooms.

Rosalie is a historical iris enthusiast, so her garden included many, many older, famous irises that many convention attendees had only read about. But, her garden also included an extensive collection of over two hundred recent introductions, including many rebloomers.

Louisiana and Japanese irises were growing well but not yet in bloom; however, Siberians were putting on their own convention display. Outstanding ones included:

ILLINI FLIRT, Varner '85, S-white, tinted pink, F-violet pink AQUA WHISPERS, A.M. Miller '87, S-white, F-lavender, edged white REPRISE, Warburton '87, violet, white signal, aqua and rosy styles QUEEN'S GAMBIT, D. Johnson '88, purple, white veins, blue signal

What a treat to visit such a superb garden belonging to a superb AIS MAINSTAY, Rosalie Figge!



Figge Garden



John Lawson and Dave Silverberg

# THE LAWSON GARDEN

Marky Smith (Washington)

It was scarcely 7:30 on a soft Virginia morning, when we saw the flags: American, Virginian, and a large Stars and Bars flying in front of the Lawson home, which was the original farm house for this area, and was saved, with some outbuildings, (including a wonderful red barn, complete with rainbarrel, when the land was subdivided. Once behind the house, isolated by mature pines, maples and pine oaks, with the early gold light slanting through the branches and warblers and mockingbirds singing, the surrounding subdivision vanished. There remained a perfect country garden, apparently far from the madding crowd.

Hot weather had pushed the bearded irises past peak, but many stars were still on stage, including last year's PROUD TRADITION, a testimony to how well the Schreiners breed all shades of blue. Here are two perfect examples in one neglecta, the silver-blue silk standards contrasting with rich hyacinth-blue velvet falls. Alongside were two more Schreiner bicolors, the massive gold-ochre and mahogany variegata, SUPREME SULTAN, and a magnificient stalk of JAZZ FESTIVAL (90) with soft ivory-tan standards and glowing rose-cerise falls displayed by three open flowers, a Queen of Show winner on any bench. Lovely form and almost edible colors highlighted Paul Black's very ruffled, soft peach and apricot VICTORIAN FRILLS. Monty Byer's perfectly named MAUVELOUS, (88) displayed its shades of smoky and pearly mauve; and Ken Fisher's sparkling MTB FROSTED VELVET, white standards and blue-black velvet falls, looked excellent, as it did in every convention garden where it was planted.

The last flowers of Joe Gatty's BOLD GOLD, glowed like little suns between a wonderful clump of Ben Hager's wide, ruffled GOOD GUY, properly dressed in white, and Keith Keppel's red-bearded, cerulean SKYBLAZE, just finishing. New to me were Sterling Innerst's TENNESSEE GENTLEMAN, with pure violet plicating laid in orderly pattern on clear yellow ground, and Gary Sides' BC45-F37, a large clump of precisely ruffled, pale apricot-frost flowers which glittered in the morning sun. Opal Brown's tall 82-3F, a toasted rose frothed with ruffles and lace and a vermillion orange beard, was an eyecatcher, as was Evelyn Jones' pretty seedling 86E1-1 with ruffled lavender standards and blended peach falls, and the terrific Nearpass seedling 88-20, that descends from, (and transcends,) PURPLE PEPPER; its sheer smoke of lavender dots suffusing perfectly-formed, ruffled standards, above ruffled falls, heavily stippled with medium-dark purple; all lighted by gold beards.

The honors among the guests would certainly go to the Siberians, which were in full bloom. Best here was a marvelous clump of Anna Mae Miller's AQUA WHISPERS, a soft orchid rose marked with turquoise lines; two entirely different whites, Dale Johnson's very wide SNOWY MOUNTAIN and Bee Warburton's wonderful WHITE TRIANGLES grew side by side. John Lawson's own Siberians also were showing off, with the deep blues of Miller's LIBERTY HILLS, Ken Waite's clear SERENADE IN BLUE, and Warburton's powerful bitone blue SPRINGS BROOK leading the parade.

The Lawson yard included a wide variety of iris types. Eleanor McCown's HIGHLINE AMETHYST, a dark violet with dramatic gold signals was the first Spuria to open, and the Japanese cultivars were in bud. Species included sanguinea, tectorus, pseudacorus and John's own versicolor seedlings, including #88-11, a rosy red-violet, splashed white, with pure white style arms, that he hopes to introduce in 1993.

An hour was scarcely enough for all the pleasures: the collection of Tradescantia in soft electric blue, mauve, rosy violet and deep cobalt; the towering alliums, including the white-flowered *allium nigrum* with rose foxgloves; the collections of daylilies and lilies waiting their turns; the wide assortment of sedums and succulents; miniature roses, poppies, heuchera, peonies, hydrangeas and rhododendrons, and under the trees, an extensive collection of hostas, including two bright chartreuse Piedmont Gold and the soft blue velvet Hadspen Blue.

In addition to this feast for the eyes, John Lawson has provided a continuous feast for the table, with a thriving vegetable garden including peas, onions, celery, cabbage, elephant garlic, and others, including kohlrabi and salsify. He told me he grew over 40 different crops last year, including 72 varieties of incredible edibles. We appreciate the Lawson's sharing their well-balanced garden, a serious gardener's delight, with us.



Clarence and Suky Mahan

# THE IRIS POND GARDEN OF SUKY AND CLARENCE MAHAN

Barbara Schmieder (Massachusetts)

I had a feeling I'd need help knowing what things NOT to miss in this garden, so I sent my scout, Shirley Varmette, out the day before to reconnoiter. In spite of the head start that gave me, I was still the last person back on the bus (and practically had to be dragged away!) The charm of the garden is very powerful, a result of the collaboration of a lady (Suky) with an eye for design and beauty and a gentleman (Clarence) who is an expert at choosing and growing plant material. Add to that a daughter (Christiane) who made for the refreshment table the most delectable fruit pizzas covered with kiwi fruit, grapes, and strawberries, and you can see why I didn't want to leave.

As I got off the bus, the first thing that caught my eye was the Bourbon pillar rose, Madame Isaac Pereire, with its large rosy carmine clusters decorating the garden sign. Then I was drawn to a display of Siberian irises around a lamp post, among them WHITE SWIRL, SHIRLEY POPE, KISMET, LAUGHING BROOK, CHILLED WINE, SWANK, and the best grown clump of PINK HAZE I've seen in some time. Across the front of the property, a rail fence was covered with old roses in full bloom. I was particularly attracted to a hybrid musk rose, Moonlight, with small white semi-double flowers. Then I saw a large magnolia tree with hostas growing under it and I told myself, "Don't look or you'll never get to the back yard and the guest plantings!" So onward I went past a lovely clump of SHAKER'S PRAYER (Carol Warner's 1990 Siberian that grew well everywhere and captured the President's Cup), historic irises MEXICANA (Salter before 1859) and GAJUS (G & K 1905) through an archway

covered with a pink climbing rose "Rosarium Uetersen" into peony heaven and then into the back yard where the koi pond reigned supreme.

From almost any angle, the koi pond is magnificent, but my scout had already told me her favorite view, which was from the other side of the yard looking up at the rows of terraced irises to the pond beyond and it certainly captured the spirit of the garden name. Around the pond were planted Siberian and pseudacorus irises, a cut leaf red Japanese maple trailed over flat rocks on the edge and nearby was a large spreading dogwood, creating just the right accent for the pond. Bark mulch paths bordered with sweet woodruff led to shady plantings of hostas and astibles, with blue and white iris tectorum and other species irises. Versicolor irises occupied the first iris beds, with Bee Warburton's MINT FRESH (white with magenta stripes) and PARTY LINE (red violet with white style arms) blooming particularly well.

As the garden sloped steeply to the side, the bearded irises were planted in terraced beds, bordered by uneven lengths of railroad ties placed upright to make a holding wall. Many of the convention guest irises had finished blooming, but I was able to find some very nice ones, beginning with a very laced orchid TB with tangerine beards by Bob Dunn (B84-858-6). CAROL LEE (K. Fisher 89) is an MTB similar to BUMBLEBEE DEELITE (but from different breeders and breeding) that hasn't gotten enough notice. I was very impressed with Franklin Carr's 1988 TB GLOWING GEM—white with faint blue plicata markings on just the barest rim of the falls, white beards and blue style arms that shine through the standards. Schreiners also had a nice guest TB—CORAL SUNSET (1990)—pinky apricot with a white area in center of the falls and a tangerine beard. There was also a big clump of their DUSKY CHALLENGER, which looked so good everywhere that it wound up with the Cook Cup.

Region 4 hybridizers were well represented, starting with a dainty BB from Alice Bouldin called JENNISEE (1983) and its short TB sib INSTRATING. JENNISEE has greyed coffee standards flushed plum, deep plum falls and plum ribs on the style arms. Clarence, in a postcard which he sent giving additional information, describes the standards as amber buff with violet cast and the beard (something I failed to note) as red violet. (Sometimes I think it might be fun for our editor to pick one iris to be seen at a convention preferably a blend—and ask a dozen people to describe the color, printing all descriptions!) INSTRATING is similar but the standards are more bronzy and the beard bronze. J.D. Stadler's CELESTIAL DREAM (BB 1984) I liked here and at other gardens—it looks like a smaller version of CLASSIC TREAS-URE (Burger 1984), another Region 4 introduction. Clarence himself had several excellent irises blooming: CHINA NIGHTS (TB registered 1990) with ruffled rust colored standards and falls becoming deeper colored on the hafts, white blotch in the center of the falls, and gold beards; an MTB seedling (788-3)—a small tailored white with pale lemon beards; and a nice fairly short white TB, ruffled, with pale blue beards (1388-1).

My last sight of the garden as I was going back to the bus was of a bed of laevigata irises—SHIRASAGI—a flat 6 petaled flower of bluish white with

violet ribbed style arms and yellow signals. I thought to myself how fortunate I had been to have seen so many types of irises blooming at the same time in one garden and to have seen them displayed so beautifully. Thank you, Suky and Clarence, for a magical tour!

# CAROL AND ANDY WARNER'S "DRAYCOTT" GARDEN

Anna Mae Miller (Michigan) Joan Verwilst (Michigan)

It was with great anticipation that I enjoyed the first day's bus tour through the northern Baltimore County rolling hills. Some were covered with forests and others were green pastures. Here in the heart of hunt country, we were approaching the Draycott Garden, the home of Region 4 RVP Carol Warner and her husband Andrew who were our hosts for this perfect touring day. We were welcomed to the nicely landscaped, spacious grounds by singing birds, and after the buses maneuvered the long uphill driveway in reverse, we were welcomed by Carol and Andy.

Past the splitrail fence, the entrance plantings with peonies, coral bells, PINK HAZE (McGarvey 80) and ROANOKE'S CHOICE (McGarvey 76) and an evergreen set the stage for the many island beds which had a backdrop of evergreen and deciduous trees in the distance. One area had a nice clump of STEVE VARNER (Briscoe 78) grown in front of a variagated form of Miscanthus grass. Another planting that was lovely was a dark wooden trellis with a rose colored rhododendron, lupine, HUBBARD (McEwen 82) and hemerocallis and Japanese irises to provide color interest later in the summer. Carol grows many types of irises—medians, tall bearded, Siberian, species, and Japanese. Only two years before, her garden was on the Japanese Iris Convention tour and I saw how well she grew them and knew we were in for a special treat. Nine years after Carol attended her first AIS convention, she welcomed AIS members to her wonderful, spacious, tranquil, and secluded garden surrounded by evergreens and on one side a deciduous forest carpeted with wildflowers with I. tectorum growing at the edge.

The irises were displayed for easy viewing, with easily read labels featuring green stakes to blend in with the foliage. Contrast of textures, forms and colors are combined very artistically in island beds combining evergreens, shrubs such as Cytisus x 'Lucky,' and large rhododendrons with perennials for all seasons of bloom and interest. It is a well planned garden with many areas of interest, including a nice vegetable area. She has made use of stone edging and paths to lead from the front to the back of the island beds.

One of the island beds planted with rhododendrons, Kalmia (Mountain Laurel) and hostas uses irises to follow the sequence of the color wheel: blues through the purples, red violets, oranges, and yellows. A few of the accents were EMBELLISHMENT (Innerst 86), a ruffled pink TB with orange beards, ORANGE SLICES (Niswonger 87), EDITH WOLFORD (Hager 86), the

gorgeous yellow-medium violet bicolor and BEFORE THE STORM (Innerst 89) a very dark velvety black TB.

Andy's hobby is toy trains, and he had one set up and running in an area of the garden which was being enjoyed by many of the visitors.

Part of the Siberian iris collection was growing in rows in back of the house where there was a lovely clump of REPRISE (Warburton 87) and many of the Siberian seedlings were very well grown, having been planted at the proper depth and having been watered sufficiently to have fine quality plants and bloom. Noteworthy was a long row (at least 40-50 feet) of SHAKER'S PRAYER (C. Warner 90), a variety with two branches and standards of violet with red violet style arms and falls that are white in the center with delicate lilac veins darkening at the edges to violet. Another wonderful clump of it was by the pool where the wind caught it. Later in the week, it took the President's Cup. Another 1990 I. siberica type was SNOW PRINCE (Sarah Tiffney) a nice white with creamy falls. Robert Hollingworth had several Siberian guests in bloom: 85B3B10, a large ruffled purple self with a large white and yellow signal area, 85C3A2, a nice light blue-violet, 85G2A3 a full wine with a blue overlay that was nice, and WINDWOOD SERENADE (90) a ruffled red violet with a small white signal. These were on two year plants, so they were growing short since it takes Siberians about three years to grow as they should. Hal Stahly had two new Siberians performing nicely: MOON SILK (91), a nice wide, flaring pale yellow fall with white standards and FOUR WINDS (91) a flaring medium blue.

Other Siberian irises which were noteworthy and receiving much attention were SULTAN'S RUBY (Hollingworth 88), a deep velvety magenta with a large gold signal and feathered stylearms, and JEWELED CROWN (87), a deep velvety wine with a large gold signal; MABEL CODAY (Helsley 85), a ruffled medium blue-violet; GOLDEN CRIMPING (McEwen 85) creamy white with a gold edge.

Although the tall bearded guests were not in good bloom, two Innerst seedlings caught attention. They were 2395-10 with pink standards and wine red plicata falls and good branching and 2949-8 which was a nice lavender blue with a red beard. Innerst's MEGGLETHROP, an IB from '91, featured light blue petals with dark blue spots on the falls. STRATAGEM (Ghio) was a buff pink with orange beards, and it was nice.

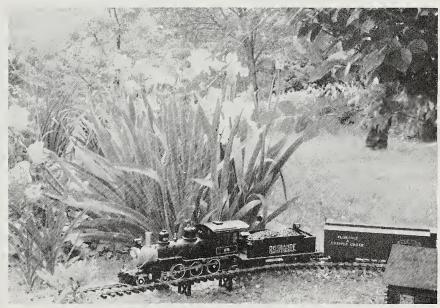
In these large gardens there never seems to be enough time to take pictures and get sufficient notes to make a nice report. I hardly made it to the refreshment table, but Jim Browne admitted that he had more than his allotted 3 "potato chip cookies." I have since checked with Carol, and there were indeed potato chip cookies there, and I'm sorry I missed them because it would have been a first for me.



Carol Warner and SHAKERS PRAYER



The Warner Family



Andy's train and Carol's irises

# **YOUTH VIEWS**

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED as a bona fide American Iris Society booster by sitting down and putting pen to paper to tell the rest of us about our outstanding youth members. Take some time to reflect on young people who are helping to make your iris experience richer. If you know a youth member who is an enthusiastic irisarian and has shared that "growing" desire with others, then PLEASE send in a nomination for the 1992 Youth Achievement Award Contest. People and the organizations they belong to really do thrive on positive reinforcement!

#### YOUTH CONTEST RULES

If you know an AIS youth member who is active in any of the following areas please nominate that youth!

He/She grows a very fine garden of his/her own.

He/She is an active hybridizer.

He/She has contributed to an iris publication.

He/She has helped an iris organization through a committee or activity.

He/She visits local gardens.

He/She has attended regional/national conventions.

He/She is studying to become or is already an AIS judge.

He/She has promoted iris and/or AIS to others.

He/She has found new AIS members.

He/She competes enthusiastically in shows.

He/She is involved in scientific experiments with irises.

He/She is interested in irises other than TBs.

He/She shows leadership.

Rules are simple. Any AIS member may nominate any AIS youth member. Entries must be in writing, including the name and age of the youth member, and mailed to the AIS Youth Chairman by January 31, 1992. The youth committee will code the entries to conceal identities and send them to a carefully selected panel of judges. Awards will be presented at the National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia.

Tips to Nominators: Please use the activity list above as an outline for your nomination, elaborating on each area that applies to your nominee. Try to limit your nomination to a maximum of two pages. Feel free to add anything not covered in the list, especially those qualities that make your nominee special. Take as much care and consideration as possible in preparing your nomination. How well you present your nominee to the judges can influence the outcome.

# GIFTS TO THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

January 15, 1991 to July 15, 1991

#### **MEMORIAL GIFTS FOR:**

# Mrs. Meredith (Leda) Christlieb (KS)

Peggy Bewley (KS) Sandra L. Blevins (KS)

Mabel Boardman (KS)

Bill Bobbitt (TX)

Donald Joe Bobbitt (KS)

Harold Bobbitt (KS) Harry Bobbitt, Jr. (KS)

Robert E. Bobbitt (KS)

William and Normalie Bobbitt

(KS)

Helen Bradford (KS)

Elmer Brawley (KS)

Dorothy Briar (KS)

Ruth Scott Buchanan (KS)

Annett Campbell (AR)

Park and Arleta Carter (KS)

Ms. Louie N. Chestnutt (KS)

Carl and Ruth B. Colvin (KS)

Bill Denner (KS) Phil Denner (KS)

Floyd and Leota Dyer (KS)

Ruth Ebberts (KS)

Tom and Mary Lee Eckley (KS)

Leona Hale Edwards (KS)

Bob and Mary Ann Freeman (KS)

Jim and Lucy Fry (KS)

Shirley M. Gresty (KS)

Mr. and Mrs. John Grundy (KS)

Wayne and Hazel Hinderliter (KS)

Pauline Hale Kennedy (KS)

Ardeth M. Longfellow (KS)

Thelma and Don Marhenke (KS)

Alice L Markley (KS)

Glenna Monfort (KS)

Kenneth and Gladys Pike (KS)

Wilma Pundars (WA)

Howard and Connie

Schlotterbeck (KS)

Karl Tharp (AR)

Junior and Charlene Town (KS)

Lelia Whipple (KS)

Wichita Area Iris Club, The (KS)

Mildred Willis (KS)

Mary and Wm. F. Winzer (KS)

Julie Wright (KS)

#### John Cortell (CA)

Bob and Mary Dunn (CA)

#### Phyllis Holtz Culver (ID)

Laura Buelow (WA)

John and Helen Sheckler (ID)

Town and Country Iris Society (ID)

#### **Gerald Followwill (OK)**

Wichita Area Iris Club, The (KS)

#### **Howard Goodrick (CA)**

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Bausch (WI) San Diego-Imperial Counties Iris

Society, Inc. (CA)
Nadine Yunker (WI)

# Gary Gottardo (CA)

Bob and Mary Dunn (CA)

#### John Holden (CA)

Mr. and Mrs. Karol Hujsak (OK)

#### Bill Holman (OK)

Southwest Oklahoma Iris Society (OK)

#### Helyne John (TX)

Claudia Loper (TX)

Mr. and Mrs. Larry D. Stayer (OK)

#### Fred Koehler (CA)

Orange County Iris and Daylily Club (CA)

#### Lorene Kurtz (OK)

Southwest Oklahoma Iris Society (OK)

#### Mrs. Walt (Marty) Luihn (CA)

Robert L. Annand (CA) Sam and Vivian Best (CA) Ruby Wilson (CA)

# Mrs. B. R. (Beatrice) McMahan (TX)

New Braunfels Iris Society (TX)

#### Elizabeth Moors (ME)

Region 1, AIS

#### **Bettie Osborne (CA)**

Bob and Mary Dunn (CA) Ruby Wilson (CA)

### Mrs. Mary Belle Purcell (CO)

Region 20, AIS

#### Jonnye Rich (CA)

Bob and Mary Dunn (CA)

#### C. C. Rockwell, Jr. (TX)

Marvin Granger (LA)

#### Paul Runde (CA)

San Diego-Imperial Counties Iris Society, Inc. (CA)

#### Carl Schulz (CT)

Region 1, AIS

#### Kenneth C. Simpson (PA)

Mr. and Mrs. George W. Gerhardt (PA)

Pittsburgh Iris and Daylily Society, The (PA)

#### Robert Staub (PA)

Marilyn Harlow (CA)

#### Ruth A. Stephenson (CT)

Connecticut Iris Society (CT)

#### John W. Turner (AZ)

Marilyn Harlow (CA)
Tucson Area Iris Society (AZ)

#### **OTHER GIFTS:**

#### **Computer Fund for Registrar:**

W. Stanley Coats (CA)
Melrose Gardens (CA)
Roris Co., Ltd. (CA)
Roris Gardens, Inc. (CA)
Sacramento Iris Society, Inc. (CA)
Santa Rosa Iris Society (CA)

#### IN MEMORY OF:

#### **Bettie Osborne (CA)**

Clara B. Rees Iris Society (CA) Monterey Bay Iris Society (CA)

#### Ruth and Clara B. Rees (CA)

Clara B. Rees Iris Society (CA)

#### CONTRIBUTIONS AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY: Send to The American Iris Society, Jeane Stayer, Secretary, 7414 E. 60th St., Tulsa, OK 74145.

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY FOUNDATION: Send to AIS Foundation, Richard T. Pettijohn, Treasurer, 2510 S. 148th Avenue, Omaha, NE 68144. Donations to the Foundation and AIS are tax deductible.

Note: please include name and address of next-of-kin pertaining to memorial gifts, so that a card of acknowledgment may be sent. Checks should be payable to the American Iris Society or the American Iris Society Foundation.

# **IN MEMORIAM**

Deborah Clack (Texas)
Bill Hollman (Oklahoma)
Mrs. Kenneth Love (Nebraska)
M. W. Norton (Texas)
Mrs. Veronica Phillips (Maryland)
Mrs. William L. Raub, Jr. (Illinois)

# OREN E. CAMPBELL

Tom W. Dillard

The Iris world lost a valued friend and leader on Monday, June 10, 1991, when Oren E. Campbell of North Little Rock, Arkansas, died. Oren and his wife, Sue, were charter members of the Central Arkansas Iris Society, and he had served as both CAIS President and Regional Vice President of the American Iris Society.

Born on May 7, 1906, in St. John, Kansas, and raised on a farm near Cimarron, Kansas, Oren earned a degree in horticulture from Kansas State College, Manhattan, and then taught vocational agriculture at several Kansas high schools. He eventually retired after 25 years as chief of manual arts therapy and physical medicine rehabilitation service for the Veterans Administration Hospital at Fort Roots, North Little Rock.

Oren's love of the irises manifested itself in many ways, including growing a large display garden at his home. He also hybridized Louisiana irises, his most famous introduction being STRANGE ROMANCE. A red-purple, STRANGE ROMANCE won the Honorable Mention Award from the AIS. He recently registered another Louisiana iris, LOVE YA, a beautiful purple bicolor.

Oren was not stingy with his irises. He provided 82 named varieties of Tall Bearded irises for the Faucette Triangle Park in North Little Rock. He also planted a large iris garden at his church, First United Methodist in North Little Rock.

Oren's death was mourned by his wife, Sue, a daughter, a son, a grandson, and one great-grandson—as well as a large number of fellow irisarians.

# LEDA CHRISTLIEB

Leda Christlieb, RVP of Region 18, passed away this past spring. She had served the AIS as Director of the Robin Program in past years, and hosted the first robin reception at the Wichita Convention in 1971.

Leda joined AIS in 1961 and attended her first convention in Kansas City the next year. She started an iris club in her area and later joined other Kansas

clubs. She enjoyed the many national conventions she attended, and each one brought her more pleasure than the last one.

Some of her iris introductions were award winners, including POGO DOLL which won the William Mohr Award. She had received medals from international competition for her irises.

Leda and her husband Meredith operated the Rippling Waters Ranch near Severy, Kansas. She loved the ranch, her irises, and her iris friends. All who knew her were impressed with her kindness and her enthusiasm for the iris world.



# LARRY GAULTER

James P. McWhirter

Larry Albert Gaulter, a former member of the Board of Directors of AIS, and a distinguished iris hybridizer who was widely known for the tall bearded Dykes Medal winner, Mary Frances, passed away on June 8, 1991. He was 83 years old.

Larry's interest in irises was a lifetime love. Born in Kansas City, Missouri, on November 16, 1907, Larry became interested in flowers as a boy when he lived next to a greenhouse and across the street from a large cemetery. As he recounted in a series of interviews with Adele and Lewis Lawyer in 1984 and 1985, during the Spring and on Memorial Day, Larry would work at the cemetery "selling pots and flowers for the greenhouse people. They gave me some of the annuals they grew, and I started growing them in my backyard." Larry also worked in his father's paint and wallpaper business and developed a sense of the subtlety of color, which translated into an awareness of the color of flowers.

After marrying Frances Gaulter in August, 1927, whom he spotted at a dance while he was playing the saxaphone for a local band, Larry and Frances (or Granny, as Frances was affectionately called) purchased their first home in Chanute, Kansas. Of course, "a nice old lady" lived next door and gave the Gaulters a bushel basket or two of irises which bloomed the

following spring. Larry's infatuation with irises had started, and he wrote the editor of *Flower Grower* magazine that they needed to devote more space to articles about irises.

In following years Larry and Granny would travel the iris "circuit," visiting iris gardens and evaluating the work of hybridizers. Together, with the Hills of Lafontaine, Kansas, they would travel to the garden of Hans and Jake Sass in Benson Station, Omaha, where Larry first met Bob Schreiner and Dave Hall. As Larry explained, "Omaha was the central drawing card for irisarians in those days. If you wanted to see anybody in the iris world, you would find them at the Sass place during bloom season." Larry would then visit Agnes Whiting in Mapleton, Iowa; Chet Tompkins in Sioux City, Iowa; E.C. Shuber in Clinton, Iowa; and then visit the gardens of Dave Hall, Orville Fay, Brother Charles, and Mrs. Douglas Pattison in Illinois, and the Wild Rose Iris Garden in St. Joseph, Missouri run by Ella Callis. Before long the circuit of gardens included that of Dr. P.A. Loomis and J.D. Long of Boulder, Colorado, gardens which extended the travel season because of the later bloom in Colorado, as well as the gardens of Tell Muhlestein of Provo, Utah and Alexander Maxwell of Yakima, Washington.

In 1938 Larry first joined AIS and was appointed a judge that same year by Agnes Whiting. He had accumulated a vast amount of knowledge and, as he observed, "in following the Sass Brothers and Bob Schreiner around the fields and listening to their comments the way I had done, I couldn't avoid hearing a lot about irises." Years later, Larry would be appointed an Emeritus Judge of AIS.

During World War II, Larry served with the Navy and was stationed in California. When the war ended, Larry used his mustering out pay to purchase new irises from various hybridizers, and shortly after the war Larry moved his family from Kansas and settled in the Bay Area in California. In California he met such iris people as Neva Sexton, Walt Luihn, Sydney B. Mitchell, Carl Salbach, Jim Gibson, Bill Schortman and Ruth and Clara Rees and at national conventions he met Jim and Melba Hamblen, Opal and Tom Brown, Tom Craig, and Fred DeForest. Larry would make the annual pilgrimage to Oregon and Utah to visit iris gardens and hybridizers. As he told Adele and Lewis Lawyer, "From (Opal Brown's) we would drive back down to Utah through the Blue Mountains of Oregon, a circuit of about 2500 miles. I remember once in the Blue Mountains the Iris missouriensis were in bloom. The water from the melting snow would come down into the meadows and the missouriensis were just thick. Stafford Jory was with us on that trip. Stafford was kind of a dedicated photographer, even belonged to a club. The flowers grow pretty low and Stafford was stretched out on the ground to get the picture he wanted. What he didn't know was that, close by in the pasture, there was a bull. This bull had started towards him, and the rest of us got kind of excited. We yelled at him to get out of the way, but he was determined to take the picture first. Granny got a picture of him lying there with the bull coming towards him. But anyway, it all came out all right."

Larry began making crosses in the late '40s and early '50s and began registering irises of his own in the mid '50s. In 1954 Warm Spring, a cross of OLA KALA x GOLDBEATER, was registered and introduced through Ernie LaFrenze, and in 1956 he registered FLEUR D'BLANC, a small ruffled white iris. Other early registrations include BASIN STREET (Gaulter R. '56, I. by Gaulter and Tell in '59), which is in the parentage of Walt Luihn's DUSKY DANCER, and WAITING GAME (R. '61). Larry's first really successful introduction was MADEMOISELLE (Gaulter R. '58, I. by Mission Bell and Tell '59), a cross of LAVENESQUE x PATHFINDER, which received the Award of Merit in 1963. According to Bryce Williamson, Tell Muhlestein had been visiting Northern California, most likely staying with Clara and Ruth Rees, and nearly flipped out when he found MADEMOISELLE in Larry's seedling patch. Tell listed the iris in his catalogue the next year.

Larry introduced many outstanding irises in the 1960s, including CLAUDIA RENE (1963), CHRISTIE ANNE (1964), which won the Premio Firenze in 1967, LAURIE (1965), which still looks good, and SAN LEANDRO (1968), which was introduced by Cooley's and was one of the great garden irises of its time. However, it was MARY FRANCES, introduced by Cooley's in 1973, which received the Dykes Medal in 1979, and which established the minimum standard for any Dykes Medal winner, i.e., the ability to grow and bloom well throughout the United States with ease. MARY FRANCES continues to rank high on the AIS Symposium.

Other significant irises introduced by Larry in the 1970s and early 1980s include TUPELO HONEY (1975), CARRIAGE TRADE (1977), which is behind SILVERADO, PERSIAN BERRY (1977), DRURY LANE (1978), PORTRAIT OF LARRIE (1979), one of the very best of the true blue approaches in the 1970s, and SKATING PARTY (1983), which is sure to figure into the parentage of many irises in the future. It is for these and numerous other irises that the AIS awarded its Hybridizer's Medal to Larry in 1978.

Larry once observed that when he first met J.D. Long, a distinguished irisarian and the operator of one of the oldest commercial iris gardens, "Long was in his 80s, and lived to a ripe old age, as do many iris breeders. It must be a healthy life." Larry lived that healthy life.

Larry's wife, Granny, died last year and many in the iris world who came to know her through Larry are still mourning the loss. With Larry's passing, the iris world has lost an important hybridizer, but more important, it has lost one of its living links to the past. Luckily, we still have the irises he created to remind us of the past and to guide us in the future.

Larry is survived by his three daughters, Warreen Rimbault, Annabelle Pool, and Larry June Leisz, 10 grandchildren, and 6 great-grandchildren.

(The author wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Adele and Lewis Lawyer and Bryce Williamson in preparing this article.)

# GROWING TALL BEARDED IRISES— SIMPLIFIED AND UNCOMPLICATED

Phil Williams (Tennessee)

The recent inclusions of articles in the BULLETIN regarding difficulties encountered in growing tall bearded irises prompts this writing. It is offered simply to help those who are having difficulties that might be avoided by changing and simplifying cultural practices.

Think back to the first irises you planted. Chances are that they grew and performed well with little or no pampering. This situation almost always exists in the beginning, whether you started growing tall bearded irises three or thirty years ago.

If you have been the lucky recipient of many writings by Lewis and Adele Lawyer (REGION 14 BULLETIN), you will remember the series of articles on "iris decline." The conclusion was that there was decline and undue expectations were shattered—the chief culprit being growing plants (irises) in the same soil for many consecutive years. (Ever hear of crop rotation?)

Hence this article will be geared toward those of us who have limited acreage and must continue to grow the plants in the same soil.

Much is written about fertility, the addition of organic matters, chemical sprays, magic tricks, ad finitum. One should observe bearded irises growing in their natural habitats. In the southeast most common location is along roadways—long ago established to assist in preventing soil erosion. Close examination of these plants will reveal that they grow *ON TOP* of the soil much like "crawdads" with tentacles (roots) extending out and down for the soil's nutrients.

My good fortune has been in my first instructions to plant irises in *raised* beds, rows or ridges. In the East this is *the* most important aspect of growing tall bearded irises. Our half of the world can have deluges of rain (2"-6" commonly) in 24 hour periods—even in the heat of July and August. If your tall bearded irises do not remain *above* this aquatic muck, you are on your way to big trouble! (Remember those old "flags" on ditchbanks . . . they'd never survive *in* ditches!) I remember the shock a few years ago of seeing a master convention planting in the East where the beds were below the grass paths!!!

A word to the wise: grow your tall bearded irises with the surface of the rhizome exposed to sunshine and air!

A further observation of "flags" growing unattended is that the back of the fan (foliage), where it attaches to the rhizome, is likewise fully exposed to sunshine and air. If your tall beardeds are planted on even the slightest slope in our tight, finely textured, waxy clay soil, every small rainshower will cause soil particles to wash up against the plants blocking air flow and sunshine to the back of the fans. If this is a problem for you, better that you *immediately place a barrier* (edging, stones, timber) to catch this washing soil and keep it away from your plants.

1991 marks the 30th year I have purchased and planted tall bearded irises. Every time I use soil new to irises (not virgin soil, for that does not exist in the Nashville area) the first year or two produces (usually) gorgeous plants and blooms with relative ease. The problem seems to arise in the continual buildup of hundreds of pounds of soil additives and fertilizers over many years, not to mention the effect of toxins which always increase where the same plant is grown in the same soil without practicing crop rotation.

Anne Lowe's recent article suggests that vigor is disappearing. Here I dare to disagree. I have always had varieties that refuse to grow well, and I dump them!! I am a collector and propogator of the newest tall bearded introductions, and I consistently find that no more than 10% of the varieties purchased have the necessary stamina to be recommended as outstanding *perennials*—sometimes less than 10%.

One common misconception is that an exceedingly vigorous iris variety is a good one. How absurd!! A cultivar that grows rampantly may be profitable for the commercial propogator, but it is almost always a disaster as a perennial! In the East, crowding of tall bearded plants (due to planting too closely or an overly zealous increaser) assures the appearance of rot during the growing season. A good perennial should grow consistently, steadily and predictably so that it can remain undisturbed for at least 3 years in the garden. In reality, the problem basically arises from iris enthusiasts and iris judges who laud and reward such "weedlike" varieties by recommending and voting for them!

Another problem that has been consistent for 30 years is irises whose genetic materials cause them to *not* go dormant and/or remain dormant during the winter months. In 1971 I visited Gus Schreiner, and he told me how every winter they walked the rows in their Oregon seedling fields and destroyed those varieties that were not properly dormant—a trait he attributed to their addition of the variety JOSEPH'S MANTLE into their breeding program many years previously.

Even in the mid of winter (January & February) here, it can be 70 or 80 degrees one day and below 20 degrees the following morning. This is not limited to varieties hybridized in mild western climates; a New England introduction can have this same genetic predisposition, but having never been grown outside of its hybridizer's home, there is no indication of this behavior pattern. For me, plicatas seem to be the most susceptible to this serious fault—and for 30 years!

Your best growth and bloom will be from plants you have propogated yourself in your own garden. The less similar a region is climatically to your own, the rule of thumb suggests that you might suspect a proportionately more frequent problem with such plants. I practice and encourage others to carefully guard first year plants and as soon as growth warrants, remove the old original rhizome from the clump. Foreign grown tissue almost always fares worse than increases that have developed in your own garden.

Iris growers to our north scream that my suggested planting procedures will cause damage during winter extremes. That is a likely situation, so I suggest mulching heavily with straw. Another possibility is to follow the examples of

Schreiner's gardens in their article in the October, 1987, BULLETIN and mound soil over the plants (just as we mound soil over the bases of our hybrid roses). Just be *sure* you remove this soil as warmer spring temperatures arrive.

Should any form of rot develop, air is the best medicine available. I wouldn't trade one windy, sunny day for all the potions, chemicals and antibiotics available!

Humans who enter the hospital for serious infections are immediately given fluids to dilute the toxic strength of these infections. Soft rot (rhizome or fan) infestation benefits magically from the same treatment. Simply get a high pressure hose and beat the soil from around the plants until the entire rhizome is exposed—down to the roots! We easterners will have another pounding rain in a few days or hours, and the soil level will be restored in our iris beds to uniform, attractive levels.

If your older, established iris beds have sinking clumps, you may lift gently with a fork (entire clump with soil intact) and raise the entire clump a few inches above the soil line. If the soil areas between your clumps are higher than the clumps themselves, you can simply shovel this soil from the bed. Again, a pounding rainfall will restore your bed's soil surface to uniform attractiveness.

So, if you love irises and hate problems, take a tip from nature and plant them where and how they want to be planted. Instructions for growing irises in distant states is rarely sensible advice. Better that you take your instructions from "flags" growing in the wild.

(Readers may find further information in Harry Randall's book *Irises*. See chapter 11, "The Cultivation of Bearded Irises," page 132.)

# ADDENDUM TO "THE LESSON OF 1990"

Sharon McAllister (New Mexico)

In the April, 1991 Bulletin, David Rogers wrote about some of his recent discoveries—something we all should do more often. What I immediately noticed, however, was not the novelty of his suggestions. It was their familiarity. This is not a criticism of his article, which was clearly needed, but of those of us who have taken such practices for granted and failed to share our knowledge.

To at least partially make amends, I'd like to offer the southern variation on the practice of planting the old mother rhizomes. I've done this for some 15 years—too long to even be sure who taught me the trick. Having grown irises in soil ranging from heavy clay to coarse sand, I've found that both sides of the "to discard or to replant" debate have their merits. In heavy soil, I found that the old rhizomes would sometimes rot, but I've never encountered that problem in sand.

Like David, I dig and divide the irises, replanting the young rhizomes; but I then replant the old rhizomes at the normal depth, in a separate, sandy bed. Burying the rhizomes in sand protects them from sunburn, which is a greater threat here than rot, because any rhizome that's exposed to full sun is soon cooked. Placing them in a separate bed gets them started on equal footing, without the competition of bloom-sized neighbors.

I map and label the bed, just like I would any other, and because the sand is not as rich in nutrients as most denser soils I rely on foliar feeding after the new leaves appear. Of course, I don't have space to accord everything this treatment. I plant the mother rhizomes of only my most important varieties: key breeders, recent introductions, and selected seedlings.

Although I don't count on first year bloom, I usually do get some. For example, in late fall of 1990, I planted 108 clumps of mother rhizomes, with 1 to 3 rhizomes per clump. More than 97% of them put up increase, with more than 10% blooming in the spring of 1991.

Wherever you live, I agree with David that replanting the mother rhizome is a worthwhile experiment—just remember to adapt the procedures to your local conditions!

# HONOR THY MEMBERS: SOLVING TWO PROBLEMS WITH ONE GIFT

James W. Waddick (Missouri)

The Greater Kansas City Iris Society is like many local affiliates. We have regular meetings, annual dinners, sales, auctions and shows; and we have members who work hard year in and year out without thought to more than an occassional thank you. Like many local clubs each year, we tally our bank account after the auctions and sales and make a contribution to our Regional and the AIS Treasuries. Of course, we also make memorial gifts as needed and support local projects.

Like many clubs, we discuss how much to send and how it would do the most good. There have been times when we wished we could do more than simply give a check to AIS and see specific results and benefits. Our problem was simple—how could we help AIS in a specific, concrete way and see some results either nationally or locally? We chose an approach that we think is worth sharing with other local affiliates.

The Greater Kansas City Iris Society has some really unique and special members. Many are widely known in the region, and some nationally. For years we have mulled over some way to honor these hard working members. We wanted to recognize the continued unselfish dedication and work that these people have given to the club to make things work. You know the ones—they volunteer every time there is that hushed silence in a meeting. They bring cookies even when they are not on the list. They stay late and clean up the meeting room. They give programs. More important, they serve as club officers and keep things going.

This spring the Executive Board met and decided we could honor certain members by giving them Life Memberships to AIS. This gift would honor an individual member and support our favorite "charity." Life memberships are one of the best ways of donating to AIS since it provides basic funding that grows with age. Since we often donate as much as \$500 or more, we approved four special gifts to four past presidents: Mrs. Lucille Krchma, Mrs. Katherine Perry and Dr. Norlan and Mrs. Jean Henderson. These two individual and one family life memberships cost our club just over \$600—the family life membership was a real bargain for us, too.

In a small ceremony we presented special gold AIS life membership cards to each member and recounted just a few of their contributions to our club. We also presented each of these honorees with life memberships in our local club and Certificates of Appreciation signed by the local club President, Mr. Jim Murrain. This was also an opportunity to renew our thanks to previous local club honorary life members and recount our appreciation and thanks to these fine members.

Marilyn Harlow, AIS Membership Secretary, helped out in making this project work. As an extra benefit, GKCIS as an organized member was able to submit these life member credits to Lucy Fry, Membership Contest Committee Chairperson, for inclusion in the membership contest thanks to a ruling by AIS that allows a society to enter the contest.

I hope that other local clubs will consider this method to solve two problems when they come up. Honor your members in a way that is direct, meaningful and individualized and make a significant donation to AIS. This simple combination benefits both the honoree and AIS and provides the local club with a delightful way to solve two "problems" with one donation. I hope you will consider this program for your annual awards and honors meetings, too.

# **1991 SEASON IN REVIEW**

Dean Brand (Oklahoma)

At home, the 1991 iris season opened with the first standard dwarfs blooming on March 14, a full 2 weeks earlier than I have had bloom since I've been growing irises and one month earlier than I've had bloom since moving to the country about 5 years ago. Our early show on April 20 turned out to be mostly a tall bearded show and it looked as if the two later shows might be washouts. Not to worry, the bloom stretched out nicely and I still had quite a lot of bloom when I cut bloomstalks prior to leaving for the national convention. EVENING MAGIC (Schreiner '90) had 3 buds ready to open on a greal stalk. I couldn't bear to leave it, so cut it, stuck it in a Pepsi bottle, and took it with me. It opened all three blooms in Arkansas and was lovely. We stopped at a rest stop on the Interstate to take pictures of it. I'm sure that some of the people there wondered what those nuts were doing out there taking pictures of a flower. EVENING MAGIC is quite similar to its parent LORILEE, red violet with a white

area in the center of the falls, but it seems to grow and branch much better than the parent.

1991 was the year I finally managed to get one of those fabulous MO-MENTUM (M. Dunn '86) stalks to the show, and it rewarded me with a Queen of Show award. Hopefully, by the time this is published, MOMENTUM will have won its AM. If this variety doesn't win some higher awards, then something must definitely be wrong with our awards system. It is one of, if not the best, all around newer varieties on the market. It's beautiful, has good form, grows and increases well, puts up those great stalks every year, and has so many buds you wouldn't want to count them. The color is blue stitching on white standards and violet stitching on white falls.

Other standouts in the home garden this year included:

LOYALIST (Schreiner 87) a deep claret purple sent up show stalk after show stalk.

LULLABY OF SPRING (Schreiners 87) was lovely in pastel shades of light yellow standards and pale lavender falls.

MISSY YORKTOWNE (Innerst 84) is a well formed white with a neat little curl at the end of the falls; show stalks galore.

JITTERBUG (Keppel 88) yellow standards and yellow ground falls heavily peppered red, and RUSTLER (Keppel 88) rose brown standards over henna brown falls, vied for the brightest spot in the garden, each making magnificient clumps. JITTERBUG also makes great show stalks.

IMPRESSIONIST (Ghio 88) is totally captivating with pink standards and maroon falls with a pink center and petal edge. The colors are so bright and clean that it really makes an impression.

STRATAGEM (Ghio 89) again showed excellent stalks. It has pretty blooms of smoky tannish pink with red shoulders; really different.

VENETIAN WATERS (Black 86) is one of those never fail beauties which has been overlooked, most likely because there are just so many fine ones in the medium blue violet class; but there is none which consistently performs better than this one.

SEA WOLF (Atiken 85) and ORBITER (Aitken 85) are two fine dark purple varieties. ORBITER has those shiny satin like blooms and better branching, but I think I prefer SEA WOLF with its velvety petals which are so wide they overlap at the hafts.

SUPREME SULTAN (Schreiner 88) is simply huge with yellow standards and red brown falls; well formed for such a large blossom.

FIRST DAWN (Madsen 87) bloomed for the first time, and I thought "this sure looks familiar." Sure enough, as I was walking through the oldies later, I saw Bob Brown's MUTED MELODY (79), picked off a bloom and took it over to FIRST DAWN. They were identical down to the minutest markings. Just to be sure, I later had several garden visitors make the comparison. No one could find one iota of difference. It appears that I either have a misnamed iris or the two are exactly the same. I saw FIRST DAWN at the Memphis convention and don't recall its being exactly this color, however the official description for it

could be interpreted to fit MUTED MELODY. I do have heavy mineral content in my soil (rocks) and get deeper color on some varieties. As I don't know of anyone around here who grows FIRST DAWN, I would love to hear from someone who does and is also familiar with MUTED MELODY. Are they really this similar?

Bloom in the first year planting was a pleasant surprise. Some of the better ones here in addition to EVENING MAGIC were:

ROSETTE WINE (Schreiner 89) aptly named rose wine with white area in falls; great stalk which opened three blooms at once (just like the picture on the catalog cover.) BLUE BALLET (Keppel 90) has blue standards and white ground falls with a wide blue border; ruffled almost to a fault. This also opened three simultaneously.

GRATUITY (Hager 90) is a huge, well formed orange on O.K. stalks.

ESMERALDA (Ghio 88) is a ruffled, perfectly formed bright orange; my personal favorite orange iris.

FRINGE BENEFITS (Hager 88) is another top orange, very lacy and a lovely color on somewhat too short stalks.

ELECTRIC AVENUE (Nelson 89) a large blue violet with pizzazz.

MEMOIRS (Ghio 88) Uniquely colored dusky rose.

INTO THE NIGHT (Schreiners 89) and MY SHADOW (Magee 90) both have purple standards and near black falls edged with standard color, but are quite different, with INTO THE NIGHT being more on the blue side. Both are quite worthy.

ACOMA (Mage 90) has light blue standards and white ground falls stitched light blue; a different shade from most plicatas and it's gorgeous.

We decided to take the long way around to the convention as I had always wanted to see the Smoky Mountains, and I would be remiss if I didn't offer a heartfelt "Good Show" to the irisarian (I assume) responsible for the lovely iris plantings at the rest stop on the Interstate near Asheville, North Carolina. I think this sight probably contributed to the fact that North Carolina was our favorite state of all those we drove through to and from D.C.

We had been told that the convention gardens were about bloomed out and were worried that we wouldn't see much bloom. Happily, this was not the case. Most gardens were at or just slightly past peak, allowing the widest viewing opportunities. These are the ones which most impressed on the tours:

BEFORE THE STORM (Innerst 89) is perhaps the blackest iris I've seen. Form is O.K., and it was performing well everywhere.

BALLERINA PRINCESS (Stadler 91) was my favorite new iris. It is a border in snowy white with a narrow blue violet border on the falls a la Stadler's earlier CELESTIAL DREAM and CLASSIC TREASURE (Burger 85). However, the border is darker and more clearly defined than on either of the others. It's so-o clean looking and was growing well within class wherever viewed.

CRYSTAL FLAIR (Stadler 91) a blue white with real flair. The falls flare almost horizontally.

TOPAZ JEWEL (L. Miller 91) Get out the shades for this one. Butterscotch standards, blue white center on falls and bright orange yellow beard. It is bright.

PURE AS THE (Innerst 89) a pure white self with lots of ruffles and nice form. ORANGE SLICES (Niswonger 87) is a different colored orange; sort of a

creamy pinkish orange with an orange beard.

ISLAND SONG (Rogers 91) has light lavender standards and white ground falls with violet blue plicata markings.

SUKY (Mahan 91) is a newer and larger version of Mary Dunn's MIDWAY, blue violet with large white areas in both standards and falls; lovely, though not as lovely as the gracious lady for whom it was named.

SHIMMERING SATIN (Innerst 89) hot pink with a pink beard. This one is well named as it does shimmer; nice form.

GUADALAJARA (Ghio 89) large transparent orange of excellent form with lots of ruffles.

SIGHS AND WHISPERS (Black 90) Violet tinted standards and white centered falls with blue violet marbling blending into wide, deep violet blue border. Different and very pretty.

JUNGLE PRINCESS (Aitken 89) was my second favorite iris seen in the convention gardens. It has tan standards and ever so smooth red falls with orange beards.

BEGUINE (Keppel 89) buff ground plicata with heavy rose red markings, rusty beard.

VERIVOGUE (Dunn 89) strange but beautiful greenish ivory with gold beards; very ruffled.

REGAL AFFAIR (Shoop 89) white standards with slight blue rim and purple falls with large white area on upper part. Red beard.

As was the case last year, the most exciting new things I saw were all seedlings. Looks like we're in for some good introductions in the near future. These were the cream of the crop in my book:

Sides B-38-D-8 is a blue and white plicata somewhat like OLD CIRCUS STRIPES (Plough 76), but this one has excellent form and stalks which stay upright. Just a touch of red in the blue beards.

Sides E-56-G-8-C has white standards flushed yellow on midribs. Falls have a white center widely banded in yellow and a narrow white edge.

E. Jones 86-E-1-1 has lavender standards and pink falls, very unusual; I know of no other like it. Give it a "10" for distinctiveness.

Nearpass 88-20 has lavender pink standards and PURPLE PEPPER type falls with one of those rusty orange beards; nice form and ruffles. This hybridizer has a reputation for being very particular what he puts on the market. As a result, all of his introductions are top choice. 88-20 deserves to join this limited group.

Innerst 3319-1 Broad!! Almost circular petals in a haunting deep violet color with matching beards; ruffles galore. Great.

Innerst 33-79-3 is an IB with much charm; lavender standards flushed

deeper and lavender falls with deep reddish spot pattern; nice form and branching.

Aitken 84 T 12 is a black, black BB of good form and perfect proportion; nice stalks with good spacing. Stalk and flower well within border requirements. Top notch.

And from this old TB enthusiast, raves for one of those other irises: Hollingworth 8-5-B-3-B-10 a Siberian, has medium blue standards veined darker and falls of a darker blue with a central area of snowy white ground veined blue; ever so slight edge of lighter blue; nice globular form with just enough ruffles to give it class.

And a couple of home grown ones which I think rank a step above those mentioned above:

Mullin 84-7X is one I raved about last year when I first saw it bloom, and this year it didn't disappoint in the least. Cool and airy, it boasts icy lavender stitching on white ground, immaculate form, great stalks and branching, lots of ruffles, and a little lace. Whatever qualities a good iris needs, 84-7X has. A stalk of this with three open beat out two other very nice Mullin seedlings for best seedling at the Tulsa show. Looks like Dykes material to me. Come on, Ron, let's get it on the market.

Black 89-U-25-R, I have been in love with this since I spotted it behind the garage across the fence at Paul's about three years ago. Though I have no idea what the parentage is, I called it my "Ruffled Surprise plicata." The colors are impossible to accurately describe, but for some reason, it reminds me of Rudolph's lovely RUFFLED SURPRISE (81), only it's a plicata and what a plicata! Nice stalks and tons of buds. I can't wait to get this one in my garden.

After the convention, we left for Massachusetts to see the new grandson and stopped by the Presby Memorial Garden in Montclair, New Jersey. What a beautiful sight is the hillside of irises, and judging from the crowd in the middle of a work day, it must be a popular place with the public. However, to an avid irisarian interested in preserving the older varieties and a stickler for correctly named plants, all the misnamed varieties were disappointing. As so many of those varieties with which I am familiar were misnamed, I did not feel I could assume the ones that I didn't know were correctly named either. This considerably lessened my enjoyment of this lovely place.

Our daughter lives in Granby, Massachusetts, and being so near by, we couldn't pass up a chance to visit the garden of our president and his lovely wife. In spite of Ken's apologies for the condition of the garden after a week's absence to attend the convention, the Waite garden was immaculate. I only wish mine had looked that good before I left for the convention, not to mention how it looked when I returned. Some of the outstanding varieties here were:

TIDE'S IN (Schreiners 83) beautifully formed light blue looking as a Dykes contender should.

POPS CONCERT (Waite 81) was standing tall with its beautiful, heavily ruffled purple blooms. Ken's BELLE OF AMHERST (83) and LORD JEFF (81)

were also performing well in their home garden.

A neat little IB which caught my eye proved to be LEMON POP (Lauer 90). It is yellow with a creamier area in the falls and yellow beards. Ken has a light blue Siberian seedling that outshines any of those in this color range seen on the convention tours. I regret that I didn't make a note of the seedling number. You guys are going to get me hooked on these things yet.

As we couldn't drag ourselves away from the grandsons until the last minute, we had to forego visiting any of the northern gardens on our way back home. So, regretfully (but maybe not, I'm exhausted) another iris season comes to an end. All in all it was a very good one.

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# A SEASON TO REMEMBER

Bryce Williamson (California)

When Region 14 gathered at Las Vegas in October of 1990 for our Fall Regional hosted by the Southern Nevada Iris Society, weather talk shared equal time with iris talks. Mother Nature had not been kind to California through four years of drought and her unkindness continued past the Regional with one of the three driest falls and winters on record, aggravating the cumulative effects of four years of severe drought. Then, to compound the problems, fourteen days of sub-freezing weather in December not only broke pipes, but also devastated gardens and landscaping.

It was little wonder, then, that by January, 1991, the weather managed to bump state, national, and world news from the lead spot on the front pages of California newspapers. We were moving and discussing the unthinkable—our basic water consumption patterns would have to be changed and I, like other irisarians, was wondering whether there was a future for some of the more water demanding members of the genus iris in our gardens like Louisianas and Japanese irises.

Californians needed a miracle and that came in March in what has since come to be known as "The Miracle March"—a month of drenching, soaking rains that brought most of the state to within a few inches of normal rainfall. Ironically, the combination of freezing temperatures in December, the wet March, and constant cool temperatures through spring, combined to produce a wonderful, though late, iris season.

We even managed to escape the '80 and '90 degree temperatures in early April that had brought on the bloom season too quickly in the last few years. This year the season was long, late, and cool—good Tall Bearded bloom stretched into the middle of May and, at the first of June, I still had very good bloom in the Campbell garden on Louisiana and Spuria irises.

While many of us lost many temperate plants, Spring was superb for other flowering plants that like the cold. I have never seen a better year for roses and the tree roses, especially, were massed with blooms. Things like herbaceous peonies—at best I can keep them alive with a few blooms—have never done better. This trend of cold-weather plants doing well carried over into the irises. Without question, this was the year for Standard Dwarf Bearded irises. I, myself, had pretty much given up growing them since they give us some bloom, but they never look the way that they should look in colder climates where their clumps are covered with masses of flowers. This year, SDB's bloomed with a spectacular abandon.

I've seen AZURE GEM (Hamblen '82) in bloom in four different states, and it always looks wonderful. With its wide and round form, the purity of the blue coloring is only an added plus to this fine iris.

APRIL ELATION (Nichols '89) is yet another very good approach to azure blue and the blue beards make a nice compliment to the entire flower.

CHICORY CHARM (Hager '91) is, in my opinion, much bluer than the description from the Adamgrove catalogue would indicate. A darker shade of blue than AZURE GEM, the standards tip closed and the falls flare horizontally.

I finally saw CHUBBY CHEEKS (Black '85) and it does have a wonderful, wide, round form. The plicata markings are a soft lavender-blue, but after seeing its children in many seedling patches, there can be little question that it is going to be a significant parent.

COPS (Sobek '83) This rich, lavender-blue with deep blue-violet spots on the falls is a color gem in the garden. COPS has looked very good for several years in a row in California.

COURT MAGICIAN (Nichols '85) is one of the best SDB plicata. Clean, cream-white grounds have edges strongly lined and marked in dark blue-purple with the standards more heavily marked. The color and the form of this variety accent each other well.

HUSH PUPPY (Keppel '85) is hard to ignore with its bright mustard gold coloring and the vivid blue beards. I personally think that this is the finest SDB produced by Keith.

JADE JEWELS (Aitken '89) manages to appeal to me in the area of form and for its color—a clean, smooth, yellow-cream with light blue-violet beards.

ORANGE CHIPS (Aitkens '90) is a smooth, medium orange self with strong red beards. This is nice new color for SDB's.

SIGH (Black '89) is an AZURE GEM child with the same lovely form, but this time the color is a soft cream tinted lavender and the beards are a soft bluish-lavender. Very subtle, very elegant, and very refined.

WUNDERKIND (Hager '90) has a coloring that is sure to please with its gold standards and smooth, darkly colored brown-maroon falls. Gold beards add just the right accent to the flowers and WUNDERKIND has rebloomed in the Central Valley during the early summer.

Blooming about the same time as the SDB's, the Pacific Coast Natives came through the cold weather without problems. More hybridizers are taking an interest in this group and the range of growability seems to be increasing as people learn more about these lovely creatures. Here in the Santa Clara Valley, I have learned that they must have some summer moisture to survive and Larry Lauer is having wonderful success growing PCN's in the Sacramento Metropolitan Area in open shade. I suspect, too, that as more hybridizers work with them, we will find them growing and blooming well in a wider range of climates than we have thought possible. It has now been just over twenty years since Joe Ghio launched his first named Natives and the progress in colors, forms, and patterns has been amazing.

Among the Ghio introductions, I especially like CALIFORNIA MYSTIQUE ('82). This blue-violet neglecta even has the same flush of the falls color up its standards that was found in MYSTIQUE. RARE REWARD ('89) is stunning because of its ruffling and the orchid standards and blackish-red-violet falls. PEANUT GALLERY ('86) is a million miles away from the first muddy attempts at brown in the PCN's. PEANUT GALLERY is very floriferous, easy growing

and has a great golden-brown color. I was very impressed with Joe's first attempts at the "plicata" pattern and EGO TRIP ('89) carries that pattern forward with white grounds and a very good shade of blue in the stitched edging. My own experience with selfing the "plicata" natives suggest that it is not a plicata pattern in the sense that we think of that pattern for bearded irises.

Vern Wood started with seed from Joe Ghio and has since created some very lovely irises of his own. Among his first introduction was THREE CORNERED HAT. A very good yellow, though not a huge flower, with triangular form, it never received the press or the PR that it deserved. Its child, MIMSEY ('88), a dark gold (almost apricot-gold) with red-brown pencil markings on the falls, won Region 14's Melrose Award in 1991 for the best beardless iris in bloom at the Spring Regional. Vern is also attracting attention with FORT POINT ('88). It is basically a white with blue-violet washes on the falls.

Duane Meek produced a wonderful PCN in the variety of SAN CARLOS—again a variety that no one seems to know or grow—and it never fails to grow and to bloom here, year after year. It, too, is a very good yellow with rounded form and some light tan penciling on the falls. Planted on the edge of the rose bed, it seems to thrive on summer watering.

Lewis Lawyer is working with the blue pigment from *I. munzii*. SIERRA DELL ('88) is a "knock your socks off" shade of true blue. It is the sort of iris that makes the hybridizers of blue Tall Bearded irises stop in their tracks and drool. From different breeding, Lewis introduced FOOTHILL BANNER and it is lovely. White standards are veined and edged in a soft, but full, shade of lavender-blue and the standards are lavender-blue. This is a smaller Native, but it is very refined and very elegant.

As the SDB's and PCN's fade, the Intermediate Bearded Irises take over for their time on center state. No other class of bearded irises has impressed me as much as the Intermediate Bearded irises over the last few years. Certainly Joe Gatty's VOILA and VAMP were seminal in revitalizing interest in this group, as well as showing new directions for colors and forms, and recent introductions have impressed me since the best in the class have the flower width and form that I associate with Tall Bearded irises. I find IB's much more exciting than BB's since they bloom at the right time (in California, the extra dose of TB blood assures that they do well for us) and they provide good color, as well as refined flowers, before the TB season.

ASK ALMA (Lankow ('87) is not real tall, but the coloring—a full pinkish-apricot—is very good and commanding in the garden.

From AZURE GEM, BABY BLUE MARINE (Denney-McWhirter '87) has nice form and good coloring. Contrast to the flowers is provided by the beards that are more deeply blue than the color of the petals.

BROADWAY BABY (Gatty '90) has butterscotch bronze standards and white falls with wide plicata edges of oxblood brown in a form that has all the requisite good qualities—width, substance, and good shape.

HELGA'S HAT (Nichols '90) is a white with lemon hafts and long—and I do mean I-o-n-g—white horns. This iris is not only nice, but it is also fun.

From its first bloom in California, HELLCAT (Aitken '83) has been very good. Essentially a smaller version of MYSTIQUE, HELLCAT has that same nice flush of the blue-violet falls color repeated up the midrib of the standards.

LEMON POP (Lauer '90) is a lemon yellow self with the accent on the fine, wide, lightly ruffled form. I think that this is one of the best recent IB's, and if it will grow and if it achieves good distribution, it will be high on the IB awards list in the coming years. Yes, it is THAT good. This was Larry's first iris introduction and a very fine introduction at that.

I've only viewed MEGGLETHROP (Innerst '91) as a guest and it is a medium blue with a deeper blue blotch/spot on the falls and lovely form, but hopefully it will be in my box from Sterling this year and I am anxious to grow this for myself.

MEMO (Gatty '91) is a bright, glowing lemon yellow with white spots on the falls and faint tan plicata hafts. The fact that MEMO is out of plicata breeding seems to give its coloring a different, luminous quality.

NECTAR (Keppel '90) is deeply ruffled with soft yellow grounds and tannish apricot plicata blendings around the orange beards tipped red; just what you would expect from a quality breeder of "warm" plicatas!

RED ZINGER (Black '85) has a very nicely shaped flower in burgundy-red with lots of branching and buds. If that were not enough, it grows and blooms with total abandon.

Last year Hooker sent me several plants of RODEO CLOWN (Nichols '91) and I was not disappointed in this IB sized version of Flamenco. With butterscotch-gold standards, the cream-white falls have a wide plicata edging of rich reddish-brown.

Frank Foster may have abandoned California for the Midwest, but SUN-SHINE BOY ('86) is one of the best IB garden subjects around today. It grows and blooms and then blooms some more; the added plus is that the yellow and white flowers are first class, too.

Border Bearded irises have to be very distinctive not to be overwhelmed by the larger TB's. Unfortunately, too, many of them in our mild climate tend to outgrow their classification. In the last few years, I have been impressed with the following and they have managed to hold their own with the TB's, as well as stay in class. Of course, I've discovered that for best viewing it helps to plant them in the front of the row. I seem to be trying for a world's record, recently, by planting too many BB's and short Louisianas in the middle of beds where it is hard to see them and to evaluate them fairly!

I'm a sucker for dark blue-violet plicatas and in my mind it wouldn't matter how tall or short AEGEAN WALTZ (Nichols '87) was since the wide, round form and the deep ruffling make this a stunning iris.

I've seen COPPER GLAZE (Hamblen '86) since it was a seedling under number in Melba's garden and the accent here is on form—closed standards and falls that flare horizontally. With ruffling and a hint of lace, this buff-gold has cinammon hafts and beards. Since it is out of Picayune X Sienna Star, this is an iris with unlimited breeding potential.

It is difficult to ignore LENORA PEARL (Nichols '90). In our climate, depending on the temperatures, it is a soft to medium pink self. If I don't pay proper attention to it in the regular season, it will rebloom in the summer, and usually rebloom in the fall. It is hard not to like an iris that manages to bloom and to rebloom two or three times a year.

MAIN STAY (Burch '91) is another soft-pink variety and has a nicely laced and frilled form; the color pales beneath the red beards in an attractive manner.

For once, I planted this iris at the right place—at the front of the row—and MUSIC BOX DANCER (Roderick '84) has increased into nice three-year clumps. An aster-violet with tangerine-beards, the falls have a pale lavender-white area in the center. Very nice for form, too.

RUBY WILSON (Denney '90) is named for one of the mainstays of Region 14, as well as one of the hardest promoters of the AIS within our Region, and I hope Ruby likes her namesake. I do. A burgundy-wine red, the color is very smooth and the beards have a touch of bronze to them. So far, it has always been in class for me and this one was good enough in 1990 to win the Region 14 Cotillion Cup for best new Region 14 introductions and in this region that ain't easy!

With pink standards and gaudy rose-pink falls, SHENANIGAN (Keppel '85) holds its own against TB's. Really a very pretty color combination, with the white plicata fancy pattern splashed across the falls, and the tangerine-red beards pale to white tips.

It is sort of hard to know where to put the Aril-Medians. For the most part, here in the Bay Area at least, they bloom about the same time as the SDB's, but generally (or perhaps it is just my taste in them) the one's that I like best tend to be over 15 inches for height. Four that have pleased me for several years running include—

HILLS OF LAFAYETTE (Boswell '84) it is a yellow amoena approach with lovely, round form. The roundness of the flowers reminds me of Arils, but without the recurving of the falls seen in many arilbreds.

JEWEL OF OMAR (Boswell '86) has lavender-blue standards and tannish falls blended with maroon-brown around a diffused Aril-like beard. With its round form, it is very appealing.

SHEBA'S BEAUTY (Nichols '86), red-violet bitone, has a darker signal-like area around the wide, very aril-looking gold-brown beards. I've been growing this since '87, and it never fails to please and it never fails to be a big hit when I cut a bouquet of it and take it to the secretaries at school.

SOLOMON'S GLORY (Nichols '86) is a dark yellow with a dark spot, or is that a dark signal? At the very least, it gets to be a bit confusing when talking terminology with the Aril-Medians, so just try it and you'll like it.

I've even been growing (though mainly ignoring) a bed of Aril and Arilbred irises. When Leo Clark died, I was reminded just how wonderful Arils and Arilbreds can be, so we put in a collection for my own enjoyment. With little care and attention, PERSIAN PADISHAH (Shockey '88) has managed to steal

my heart. It is not too tall, but this maroon-lavender has the wide, round form, as well as the recurving falls of an Aril iris, and the large purple-black signals are stunning. At our Spring Regional at Santa Rosa, Carl Boswell had a lovely Arilbred seedling in bloom: 90-84AB. With a rich, full raspberry coloring and dark raspberry-black signals, this iris has the round, full form that would be expected from an Arilbred.

Tall Bearded bloom went on and on and was equally wonderful. With the cool weather it was perfect for hybridizing and perfect for making crosses that have been difficult in past years; nevertheless, I'm going to save comments on TB bloom for a later article and move, instead, to the end of the season—Louisianas and Spurias, or you'll be bored to death with an article that is way too long.

It has been over fifteen years and four moves of iris stock since I grew Louisianas and, like the Pacific Coast Natives, the hybridizers have made major advancements, especially in the area of form and patterning. When I started to grow Louisianas again, I acquired an odd mixture of new and older varieties, but I have been very pleased with the results.

Perhaps the biggest news in Louisianas has been the introductions of the tetraploids. I like SAMURAI WARRIOR (Chenoweth '87) with its distinctive bitoned red-violet coloring; GODZILLA (Durio '87) with its very round, flat plate form in blue-violet (but, because the form is horizontally flat, it is necessary to get up close to this variety to really enjoy it); and COORABELL (Raabe '88) for its round form and its red-violet coloring. COORABELL seems to bloom on shorter stalks and, as a result, has good garden impact.

The last time I had grown Louisianas, HER HIGHNESS was the standard for whites. Much has changed. Certainly no one can go wrong with growing CLARA GOULA (Arny '78). This cream white is still lovely with its ruffled form and it has proven its worth as a parent. There are some newer whites that are also very good and threatening to depose CLARA GOULA. LILLI (Dunn '89) has a half-dome formed flower, ruffling, small green signals, and large flowers. While the color is creamy, it is also clearly a warm white. John Taylor, from Australia, has two very good whites—DURAL WHITE BUTTERFLY ('90) and WHITE UMBRELLA ('91). These are very cleanly colored whites and I think that I prefer the latter due to its form, serrated edging, and great width of floral parts. John has yet another excellent white in DANZA, but it is more of a cream-white with a distinctive lime wash around the signals when the flowers first open. The flower parts are very round and compact, creating a triangular effect, and the fully formed flowers have a great color impact in the garden. While I suspect that in warmer weather the lime in the centers of the flowers will be more yellow, DANZA is one of my top favorite Louisiana irises because of its great form.

Yellow Louisianas have made tremendous progress too in the last ten years. The Australian '88 Dykes winner KOORAWATHA (Taylor '87) is a rich yellow with deep ruffling and wonderful stalks and unbelievable bud count. It takes two days for a flower to get fully open and to appreciate the lovely form. Taylor's GREEN ELF ('89) is a very bright, chrome yellow and, depending

upon the weather, the round falls can show a chartreuse infusion. Mary Dunn's FAT TUESDAY ('88) is a wide, rich butter-yellow with the accent on two other good qualities—an elegant, wide chalice form and a unique veining of almond butter-tan when the flowers first open. Purists may have some problem's with RUTH SLOAN (Sloan '85) with its all-falls form, but I like the color and I especially like the color impact of this variety in the garden. It shows up at a distance.

Blue Louisianas have always been some of the bluest irises around and the current offerings are no exception. GULF SHORES (Dunn '82) is a wonderful flower with width and great color saturation—a full ultra-marine blue self. It is a shorter variety and I made the mistake of planting it in the middle row of a bed of Louisianas five rows deep . . . Taylor's MALIBU MAGIC ('91) is a blue-bitone and the flower parts are all nicely feathered at the edges. SINFONIET-TA (Raabe '91) is stunning for color—this medium to dark iris is *blue* without hints of lavender or violet. Like the PCN SIERRA DELL, this is a blue iris that will make the hybridizer of Tall Bearded blue irises stop and drool.

In the blue-violet colorings, I was taken by PLANTATION BEAU (Dunn '85). A milk-violet, the flowers are shot throughout with turquoise veining. JAZZ BALLET (Taylor '89) won the Australian Dykes in '90 and it is easy to see why. The buds on JAZZ BALLET are a greenish-milk-violet and when the flowers open, the petals are full violet, edged in a wire rim of milk-violet, and the form is so round and so ruffled that the flowers turn up the coloring from the back of the petals, creating a bitoned effect that is simply sensational. In even darker blue-violet shades, I like Henry Rowlan's VOODOO MUSIC ('88) for its full violet coloring, its akimbo standards, and the unique way that the thumb print signal area is first yellow and then white, patterned with violet texture veining. Equally attractive is CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE (Dunn '89). This is one of those things I acquired when I could not resist the healthy plant, and the flower is also very good—akimbo standards, semi-flared falls and the coloring is a plum-violet with a small signal area.

In the red-violet colorings, I could not understand, when the first flower opened, why Mary Dunn brought BILLY to the regional plant sale, then I flooded the bed and over night I did understand—a very wide, round reddishviolet with sharp yellow signals, BILLY turned out, with the proper care, to be very nice. JOHN'S LUCIFER (Taylor '87) is also very good: a blackish-red, the petals are very round and the form is beautiful. Mary Dunn's WINE COUNTRY ('88) is a burgundy-violet with wide, flat, compact form, and it has great color impact in the garden because of its lovely shape. To me, the coloring also has some very distinctive rose-pink shading to it. I first saw PHOENIX RED VELVET (Dopke '90) under number at the Phoenix national and bought it as soon as it was introduced. This red-violet bitone has very broad parts and a flat form that is most attractive. On its first bloom in Campbell, it was a bit shy on buds, but I suspect that will settle down by next year. BELLVUE'S MICHELLE is much like CHARLIE'S MICHELLE in coloring—a bitone of fuchsia-plum and this variety really likes California, growing and bloom with great ease.

The two darkest Louisianas in the garden are Ben Hager's FULL ECLIPSE and Mary Dunn's 'BOUT MIDNIGHT. Both are blackish-blue-violet selfs and 'BOUT MIDNIGHT has just a tiny dart of a yellow signal.

Much has been written and said about GERRY MASTELLER (Raabe '88) and it is a full, medium lavender-pink with greenish signals area. I don't see it as a Pink Taffeta colored pink because here it is a lavender-pink, but the form is good with lots of breeding potential. NATURAL WONDER (Taylor '91) approaches pink from the dusky rose side and combined with ALL AGAZE (Taylor '90) there is a lot of good and interesting breeding materials for pink Louisianas. I understand that ALL AGAZE almost didn't get introduced, but here it is one of the best Taylor releases. It is a salmon-pink and the falls have a large creamy salmon-pink area around the shoulders and the signals. I think that it is very refined and lovely.

And, finally, among the Louisiana irises, no one can go wrong with EASTER TIDE (Arny '79). This soft yellow and lavender bicolor still attracts praise and attention even today. In 1990, it won the Melrose Award at our joint Spring Regional with Region 15!

Spurias seem to have made fewer advances in the last fifteen years and the Campbell garden is living proof that if they don't like the location, they don't do well. After three years, they are only doing so-so for me—time to move them to a new area, but I'm lucky to have Dr. Charles Jenkins' planting at Brock Flower Farms close at hand so that I can view Spurias growing well. Charlie has to have one of the best Spuria collections in America today, featuring both new and older varieties.

I have been and continue to be amazed at the failure of Spurias to find a wider audience in the iris society considering they have so many positive things going for them—they are, after all, only equalled by Dutch irises as cut flowers, Spurias are the only irises that I know that can be left alone in the same location for years at a time and still provide good and dependable bloom, the taller Spurias provide wonderful garden accents, and, because of their fibrous root systems, Spurias are perfectly suited for slopes and hill-sides. Perhaps, someday, interest in Spurias will catch up with these good qualities.

The areas where I see the biggest changes in Spurias over the last fifteen years are in forms and stalk heights. As hybridizers produce plants with shorter stalks, it is possible for the falls to flare more and still have a good garden effect. In addition, we're also seeing some new fall shapes where the petals have broad shoulders and the rest of the fall is spade or semi-circular for shape.

When I presented a judges' training session on Spurias in Charlies' garden, I felt compelled to remind everyone that some spuria colors are not analogous color in Tall Bearded irises. Oranges are a perfect example. The orange Spurias are yellow-orange and Ferguson's FORTY CARATS is still very fine. Hager's HEADWAY ('86) is perhaps the best orange for coloring, but I think that I prefer the form on DESTINATION (Hager '84). DESTINATION has a

wonderful, full shape and an intensity of golden-orange coloring that is delectable.

It may have been the year and all the cold, but the dark colors were very good this year without the usual virus flecking that too often ruins these colorings. AMBITION (Hager '85), CHOCOLATE DIP (Hager '86), and CHOCOLATE FUDGE (Niswonger '88) are rich, deep browns that have wonderful color impact.

I still find Ferguson's PROVERB special with its dark blue-purple coloring, but there are things that are newer and better: EVENING DRESS (Ghio '84) in a blackish blue-purple and COUNTESS ZEPPELIN (Hager '87) with its wine-purple tones.

There are lots of good yellows and yellow tans. ZEAL, although introduced by Ben Hager in '82, has a wonderfully ruffled and wide form. IMPERIAL SUN (McGown '84) is a full sulphur-yellow and this wide, rounded iris has never gotten its fair press. Charlie Jenkins had two good yellows—FINALLY FREE ('90), with nicely flaring falls, and CANDLE LACE ('90). CANDLE LACE is my pick of the present Jenkins introduction. A lemon-yellow self, the coloring is a smooth and soft tint of lemon and the form, with deep stipple ruffling, is just wonderful. This one is going to be very popular once it gets some distribution. Among the first Spurias to bloom, SON OF SUN (Wickenkamp '83) opens the Spuria season with a splash of clear, clean, vivid yellow.

Eleanor McCown seems to have a lock on good tans. I can't fault JANICE CHESNIK ('84) with its ruffled form and tawny gold flowers. BARBARA'S KISS is another beautiful tan, this time with some lavender standings. Although not tan, HIGHLINE CORAL (McCown '86) is very unique with a lavender coloring that is infused throughout the hearts of the flowers with coral-orange flushes.

I always liked the patterns from Walker Ferguson's COUNTERPOINT line and the best of the current crop seems to be DRESS CIRCLE (Hager '85). The blue-violet standards are carried above rounded falls that have yellow signals, blended into white, blended into a blue-violet edging. Very, very nice.

White Spurias have been with us a long time and the whitest of the whites is Hager's FIXED STAR ('90). The form is full, but tailored, and it reminds me very much of Marion Walker's MORNINGTIDE for shape. A wonderful breeding achievement, FIXED STAR has just the hint of a yellow signal on the falls. Among the whites with yellow signals, ILA CRAWFORD is still beautiful with its wide, ruffled form and Glenn Corlew's RESPONSE ('89) has white standards, yellow falls, and a narrow edging of white around the falls.

Charlie Jenkins is busy hybridizing and I found that he had many quality seedlings. I especially liked B10-8B, a bronze-gold with akimbo standards, broad falls, and great carrying power across the garden. From CANDLE LACE X FINALLY FREE, I found BA67E, a pale yellow with fringed edges, to be very appealing. Equally interesting and appealing were AY55A, a mulberry, and BF13C, a cobalt blue and yellow. We're going to see some really nice introductions coming out of this garden over the next few years.

Considering the iris season was long, it was surprisingly not tiring since it gave me time to look carefully, observe, and to make evaluations at a more

leisurely pace. It seems like once every decade we have one of these long, cool springs and they are perfect for viewing irises. I'm afraid, however, that it would be too much to ask for two long, cool springs in a row! I can always hope, however . . .

# LOOKING GOOD IN THE LATE SEASON

Mitch Jameson (Missouri)

Like every bloom season, 1991 had its own character, this time called early. The first tall bearded iris bloomed ten days earlier than they have come into bloom in the past seven years while we have grown irises in this space. The last 1991 freeze occurred on March 30. Generally, we can anticipate a last freeze well into April which causes many potentially early blooming varieties to have their bloom stopped or the stalks are shortened, sometimes distorted.

When late freezes happen, we are particularly thankful for varieties that reach bloom potential a little later and continue to look good at the end of the season. This is not to say that the following varieties begin bloom late in the season, rather that they looked good in the late season and stood up to the heat.

Many gardeners are looking for dark irises, and Schreiners have much to offer in the late season. STORMY NIGHT (Schreiners 84) is tall and graceful in smooth deep violet. DARKSIDE (Schreiners 85) is widely branched, consistent bitoned deep purple. DUSKY CHALLENGER (Schreiners 86) has produced interchangeable 38-40 inch stalks for the past four years in smooth deep purple. THUNDER MOUNTAIN (Schreiners 89) presents a blocky, broad dark blue violet. And NIGHT RULER (Schreiners 90) takes ruffles into deep violet black, attracting much attention.

Schreiners have much to offer in other color ranges as well. A case could be made that SILVERADO (Schreiners 87) represents the pinnacle of irising at this time—tall, broad, ruffled, long blooming silvery lavender white.

SUPREME SULTAN (Schreiners 88) a monster variegata, ROSETTE WINE (Schreiners 89) a multibudded raspberry rose with a lighter zonal area, and GOODBYE HEART (Schreiners 89) a clean pastel bicolor in apricot pink and rose lavender each stood tall in the late season.

MICHELLE TAYLOR (Schreiners 84) keeps its place in our garden, often the last bloom, lace and more lace on a beautifully structured lavender white flower on shorter stalks.

And TIDE'S IN (Schreiners 83) goes boom-bloom in light blue from early to late.

Melba Hamblen has a charming and commanding presence in the late season in SONG OF SPRING (Hamblen 83), a two-toned pastel blue violet with a red beard which loves to grow here. KAREN (Hamblen 84) in pink and blue lavender, ADVENTURESS (Hamblen 85) with pink standards and rosy violet falls, and GRADUATION (Hamblen 85) with evolving graduations of

purple rose violet shades and big multi-colored beards—each grow more pleasing year after year.

SOPHISTICATION (Hamblen 84), an excellent garden plant, soft pink with white around a blue beard that hasn't faded here. Two SOPHISTICATION children looked very good as well: taller GIFT OF DREAMS (Hamblen 87) in light violet pink and white and a strong blue beard and DANCE AWAY (Hamblen 88) a broad vibrant fawn pink and pearled violet bicolor with a deeper carmel orange beard.

ROSECRAFT (Hamblen 86) excelled on an established clump, raspberry rose with a henna beard and lots of lace.

And EXTRAVAGANT (Hamblen 83) again demonstrated why it stands near the top with its usual group of matching fine stalks, classy amethyst violet with cerise beards.

OLE SILVER (D. Moore 87), another GLORY BOUND descendant reached its wonderful potential on several stalks this year—big, lacy silvery blue.

CHER (R. Nelson 91) is definitely another star from the GLORY BOUND family, shiny orchid-violet-purple at times appearing like crinkle-edged aluminum foil, with a bright orange red beard.

SENSUALITY (R. Nelson 91) is a fine new pink. MILLION MILES (R. Nelson 91) has smoky violet blue coloration with captivating texture.

SHOREBIRD (R. Nelson 89) a broad green white and NEIL DIAMOND (R. Nelson 87) a strong deep violet are both fine garden plants.

Hopefully, 1992 will bring the release of Mr. Nelson's FRECKLE FACE, a large flowered white and rose pink plicata.

While many California bred irises were finished by the late season, WORLD CLASS (Hager 88) was not, another one that gets better each year, a clean sparkling lacy fuchsia violet amoena. MY VALENTINE (Hager 87) a dream white with a tangerine red tipped beard grows and glows.

ANNABELLE BABSON (Hager 85) forms a distinctive wall of pink for weeks each spring in our garden.

The recent Hager oranges continued well into the late season. GOOD SHOW (Hager 88) was big, vigorous, and multi-budded, some pink glow in the standards. FRINGE BENEFITS (Hager 88) featured plenty of lace, many buds and pleasing flare. GRATUITY (Hager 90) appeared to be the most deeply colored of the oranges here, and with fine flowers. A first year plant produced two good stalks.

Were this review about the early season, the irises of Keith Keppel would have been frequently mentioned. By the late season, EVER AFTER (Keppel 86) was just coming into its own in deep fuchsia rose. Joe Gatty has produced a parade of refined irises. DELICATE BALANCE (Gatty 89) shows the reverse bicolor pattern in soft pink and white. FEMME FATALE (Gatty 88) is a positive step from the classic PARADISE (Gatty 80) in the light shade of pink. And KUNIKO (Gatty 89) with a shiny white petal coloration seemed very close to perfection.

We appreciate that the Keppel-Gatty gardens also release some fine Australian irises. TOMORROW'S CHILD (B. Blyth 84) performs very consistently here with its unmistakable vivid lavender pink and red purple coloration. PASS THE WINE (B. Blyth 85) with orchid cream standards and red violet falls grows and blooms. GALLANT ROGUE (Blythe 90) has lilac standards with red purple to black falls and bright orange beards.

TOWN CLOWN (Blyth 87) produced the most flowers on a first year plant here (14)—blue white standards, bluer falls with red orange beard. MAGHAREE (Blyth 86) is a fascinating large lavender white and rose pink amoena.

Monty Byers continues to produce some unique and interesting irises. In the late season, CONJURATION (Byers 89) was among the most striking. Tall stalks generate many medium sized flowers with blue white standards, violet edges on white falls, and orange beards that extend to a white horn. CLASS ACT (Byers 88) grows vigorously and produces tall stalks with waxy lemon and white flowers and occasional violet horns. HANDS UP (Byers 88) displayed the most interesting beard extensions—muted yellow standards, fall bands, and hafts around cream white falls. The first flowers had long, broad 2 inch white flounces. Subsequent flowers calmed down to one inch flounces.

Two Paul Black irises showed off in the late season; the consistent reverse blue-violet amoena UNDERSEA ADVENTURE (Black 86) and SIGHS AND WHISPERS (Black 90) blue violet fall edges on otherwise white petals.

PURGATORY (Moores 87), a red-brown-orange bitone, is very clean and attractive.

The many back up buds keep ORANGE SLICES (Niswonger 87) in bloom well into the late season, smooth pink-coral-orange. HALO IN ORANGE (Niswonger 89) features starchy light orange standards and bands around white falls.

GLAZED GOLD (O. Brown 85) presented smoothly ruffled yellow-gold blooms with lighter shading around the deeper golden beard.

FRESNO FLASH (Weiler 83) remains a consistent orange standout.

PLANNED TREASURE (Burger 85) often listed as blooming early, looked quite fine late in 1991, with pink standards and white falls with edges washed lavender orchid and featuring a tangerine beard.

And finally, two varieties that decided to produce secondary stalks in the late season. BLAZING LIGHT (Shoop 83) remains unique with bright yellow standards and hafts, white falls and bright orange beards. It is the texture and structure that sets this one apart.

And HOLY NIGHT (Mohr 83) massive plants, stalks and flowers from early to very late in deep deep purple.

# Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Fairview Park Marriott Hotel Falls Church, Virginia

May 18 & 19, 1991

The regular spring meeting of The Board of Directors of The American Iris Society was called to order at 1:15 pm, May 18, 1991, by President Kenneth Waite. Present at the various sessions were President Waite; Immediate Past President Rasmussen; Past President Stahly; 1st Vice President and Recording Secretary Barr; 2nd Vice President Copeland; Secretary J. Stayer; Treasurer Corlew; Membership Secretary Harlow; Directors Crick, Gates, Gristwood, B. Jones, Lineberger, W. Machulak, Niswonger, Rice-Waters and Shockey; Photo Coordinator L. Stayer; Foundation Liaison Pettijohn; Committee Chairmen Brookins and Harder; RVPs O'Shea (2), Wilder (5), C. Morgan (6), King (7), Koza (8), McWhirter (14), Shepard (15), McMillen (16), Keefe (17), Szmuriga (19), Miller (20), Goodnight (23) and Gilliam (24); Asst. RVPs Schmieder (1), Stadler (4) and Gossett (22); RVP Representative A. Waite (1); Section Representatives Nichols (MIS), Perkins (SIS) and A. Lowe and V. Wiekhorst (HIPS); guests Brown and Doucette (1); Cronin, A. Morgan and Verwilst (6); A. Machulak (8); E. Jones (13); Erickson (14); John (17); Waddick (18); Aulichy and Noe (19) and W. Wiekhorst (20).

President Waite welcomed those present, reminding everyone that participation in discussion is encouraged but that only Board members may vote. Waite called for introductions and asked everyone to sign the attendance sheet.

The following corrections and additions were made to the minutes of the Dallas Board meeting as published in Bulletin #280: (1) In the list of guests attending, Yost is from Region 17, not Region 20. (2) Following the report of Registrar Nelson, Corlew's motion should read, " . . . that Nelson, Bill Maryott and Marilyn Harlow investigate. . . . " (3) An important portion of the report of Awards Committee Chairman Copeland was inadvertantly omitted. After the sentence, "Expenses were \$1905.77.", add the following: "Copeland stated that many of the Awards ballots had been returned by judges at the last moment before the July 10 deadline, some not reaching him until July 14, making it virtually impossible to meet a Bulletin deadline of July 15 with the results of the voting. He moved, and Lineberger seconded, that the deadline for returning Awards ballots be moved from July 10 to July 1. The motion passed. Copeland continued, saying that there is a similar problem concerning the return of the Symposium ballots by the general membership to the RVPs. Lineberger moved, Rasmussen seconded, that the deadline for returning Sympopsium ballots to the RVPs be moved to September 1. The motion passed." (4) The dates of the Fort Worth Convention, April 20-24, 1993, were questioned, but further checking proved them to be correct. Though no further changes in the minutes as published were called for, Gates initiated further discussion of the published minutes of the Omaha convention Board meeting (Bulletin #279), at which she had recorded the minutes. Gates again voiced her objection to the publication of the minutes, using her name without adding, " . . . as amended by the president," and her objection to the lack of communication concerning this. Returning to the subject of the Dallas minutes, Rice-Waters moved, Rasmussen seconded, that the minutes of the Dallas fall Board meeting be approved as corrected. The motion passed.

President Waite, reporting on interim Board action, stated that he had appointed Howard Shockey to serve out the term of Director Emma Hobbs, who had resigned because of ill health. The Board had approved this appointment. Waite expressed his thanks to Hobbs for serving as a director. Corlew moved, Gates seconded, that the Board express its gratitude to Emma Hobbs for long and faithful service. The motion carried.

Waite stated that he had written a letter of congratulations to the Society for Louisiana Irises on the occasion of the 50th anniversary celebration of that organization and that he had received a letter of thanks from Henry Rowlan, president of SLI. Lineberger represented the AIS at the SLI convention in Lafayette, Louisiana.

Waite reported, also, that Leda Christlieb had called in the interim period to resign her position as RVP of Region 18 because of ill health and that she had since passed away. Waite expressed the thanks of the Board for her work. Forrest Townsend, Assistant RVP, is serving as RVP for Region 18 at this time.

There was no action by the Executive Committee during the interim.

Following a brief break, Secretary Stayer reported that she had received interesting communications from Leningrad and from Moscow. The latter contained a gift to the AIS, their book of registrations and introductions; the accompanying letter stated that it was hoped that this could be an exchange for the AIS 1989 checklist. Corlew moved, Jones seconded, that *Registrations and Introductions in 1989* be sent as an exchange. The motion passed. Stayer then moved that the Russian book be placed in the AIS Archives, at the office of Publication Sales Director. Barr seconded. The motion passed.

With reference to the *Bulletin* copyright, Stayer stated that she has the necessary material but would like to investigate a new ruling before sending the application for the copyright.

Stayer reported her findings on mailing envelopes for the *Bulletin*, saying that after conferring with President Waite she had authorized a heavier envelope for the last issue (with favorable results) and had ordered a year's supply. Lineberger moved that the Board approve this action by the secretary and that the use of the heavier envelopes be continued. Corlew seconded. The motion carried.

There was lengthy discussion about the costs and methods of mailing copies of the *Bulletin* overseas. Stayer had investigated a mailing company, as well as first class mailing by the post office. At the present time, overseas members who wish to receive their copies by first class mail are asked to pay the postage. Lineberger moved that overseas members be asked to contribute \$5 in addition to their regular dues to defray the cost of mailing. There was no second to the motion. After further discussion it was decided to defer this matter to a later time in the meeting to be discussed under unfinished business.

Stayer stated that a new supply of memorial donation acknowledgment cards is needed and that she would like to upgrade the quality of the new cards. Discussion was favorable, and Rice Waters so moved. Corlew seconded. The motion carried.

In response to a question, Stayer stated that the letter from Leningrad mentioned earlier was from a floral club requesting new catalogs for irises and other flowers. Stayer will respond and send catalogs.

Membership Secretary Harlow spoke about the detailed and graphic membership report already mailed to Board members and RVPs. Membership is up to 8,419 (through March 31, 1991). Region 14 ranks highest with 728 members. Region 4 is in second place with 697 members, and Region 7 is in third place with 649 members. Various sources order mailing labels from the membership office, and labels are also provided for the mailing of the *Bulletins*. The current membership list will be going to the printer soon for the new membership booklet. Harlow noted that any list is outdated as soon as it is printed. The membership is extremely mobile, but the mobile members do not always notify the Membership Secretary or any others in the AIS who should know about a change of address. This is a problem.

Harlow reported that the old computer from the membership office has been sold. There will be a report of the computer committee later.

There was a round of applause for Harlow for her excellent report and work.

Treasurer Corlew commented on the March 31 interim financial report, citing the fact that while there is no need to panic, the time has come to look closely at the available cash situation. There is money in the restricted funds, but cash to pay incoming bills can be close at times. Corlew stated that he did not want to cause alarm but that it is time to think about the membership dues structure, about which more will be said later in the meeting. Corlew called attention to two figures in the interim report. First, there is now in the restricted Computer Fund \$9,068; this should be kept in mind when the report of the computer committee is presented later. Stayer stated that there is also an additional sum of \$2,500 for the Computer Fund which has just been sent the treasurer. And next, there is in the restricted Publications Fund \$77,806, which comes from the sale of AIS publications and which is used to fund new publishing ventures. Corlew mentioned, also, that each of the restricted funds received a share of the interest earned on the investment of these monies.

At 2:45 pm there was a fifteen-minute break.

There were no reports from Editor Mullin or from Advertising Editor-Registrar Nelson, neither of whom could be present.

Stayer reported for Publication Sales Director Lack, also unable to be present. There are 850 copies of *Basic Iris Culture* in stock, and they are selling fast. Lack would like to have a reprint of the booklet. Rasmussen moved that there be a reprinting of 5000 copies. Corlew seconded. The motion carried. Stayer continued, saying that sales are good; 1700 calendars have been sold, and there

have been two orders for 20 copies each of *The World of Irises*. Lack asks if there is a charge for the Judges Handbook Revision; the answer is that there is no charge to anyone for the revision pages. There are 81 packages of AIS Seals left, and they should last about one year. Corlew moved, Rasmussen seconded, that Secretary Stayer be authorized to order 400 packages of 50 seals each. The motion carried.

The next report, that of the Affiliates Committee, was postponed, as Chairman Niswonger had been delayed in reaching the meeting.

Awards Committee Chairman Copeland reported that the Awards ballots have been sent to the judges. There was discussion concerning eligibility for the President's Cup and the Franklin-Cook Cup because of the timing of changes of address on the part of hybridizers. Gates moved, Copeland seconded, that eligibility for the President's Cup and the Franklin-Cook Cup be clarified, based on the residence of the hybridizer six months prior to the time of convention. The motion carried.

There was discussion, also, of the ballot for Favorite Guest Irises. Lineberger wished to discontinue the policy of allowing this ballot to be mailed in after the convention has ended. It was felt, however, that this is a matter for each convention committee to decide.

Exhibitions Committee Chairman Gristwood gave an interim report with a large number of shows scheduled, 184, and only two cancelled. There was discussion of medals provided for shows. It was noted that bronze anniversary medals are available from Publication Sales Director Lack at \$2.50 each. Appreciation was expressed for the fine job Gristwood is doing.

The report of the Historical Committee was postponed, as Chairman Harder had been delayed in reaching the meeting.

Judges and Judges Training Chairman Crick gave an interim report. Handbook Revisions have been mailed to all judges. The revision pages will be available through the Publication Sales Director, and this will be noted in the July *Bulletin*. Crick will meet with the RVPs later in the evening.

Membership Contest Chairman Fry, unable to attend, sent a report. Contest results appeared in the April issue of the *Bulletin*. Membership Secretary Harlow and Fry had worked closely together on tabulation and verification, making it possible to print results earlier than before. Fry mentioned several areas for possible discussion by the Board. One concerned a packet of contest entries from an overseas member; the entry had arrived around the 17th of December, well beyond the contest cut-off date. The consensus was that the entry should be carried over to the next year's contest, with no special recognition this year. Corlew moved, Lineberger seconded, that Fry be asked to write a letter of commendation to the contestant on behalf of the Board. The motion passed.

Concerning gift memberships given by commercial growers for orders received, it was felt that no contest points should be given.

Policy Chairman Barr stated that work continued on computerizing items of policy from Board minutes. In an effort to make further use of the computerized material, Barr suggested that Board members might benefit from receiving on an ongoing basis a list of motions passed at recent Board meetings. This will be implemented, and other material may be requested as needed.

Public Relations Chairman Rice-Waters reported that work on the 1992 calendar is proceeding. Another display screen is needed, but this will be discussed later in the meeting.

Affiliates Chairman Niswonger distributed current lists of affiliates and statistics of the numbers of affiliates since 1986, showing a steady increase. He congratulated the RVPs. There are eight new affiliates this year, bringing the total to 153; Regions 17 and 22 have two each, and Regions 4, 6, 12, and 24 have one each.

There was no report on Registrations.

Howard Brookins, new chairman of the Robins Committee, gave a report on his work thus far with the Robin program, mentioning the efforts of Libby Cross, of Virginia, Region 4, and her help with several of the Robins. There will be a full report at the fall Board meeting.

Scientific Committee Chairman McEwen sent a report stating that he had received five requests for information and reporting on a grant of \$200 to Amy Pool for her study of bacterial leaf blight of irises. McEwen recommended that a further grant of \$750 be given to Amy Pool for her study. Barr so moved, Stayer seconded. The motion carried.

Rasmussen reported on further work of Dr. Nolan Henderson.

Scholarship Committee Chairman Gates reported that scholarship announcements were mailed in January, resulting in sixteen very well-qualified applicants. Chosen from this group was Peter Loos, a graduate student at Stephen F. Austin University, Nacogdoches, Texas; his field of study is the evaluation of irises in the display gardens of the arboretum at the university and will deal also with the data base to be set up for the evaluation of all plants at an arboretum. Gates moved, Niswonger seconded, that Peter Loos be awarded the scholarship of \$2,000 for 1991-92. The motion carried. Those serving on the committee were Ronald Dunn (11), Keith Fillmore (18), Lillian Gristwood (2), Emma Hobbs (6), Elsie Mae Nicholson (14) and Ralph Strane (15).

There was discussion of the intent of the scholarship program with respect to the specific study of fields related to irises as opposed to the broader topic, "study of plant sciences." There was some disagreement among Board members on this subject, as there had been among the committee members themselves. Lineberger moved, Niswonger seconded, that scholarship announcements state that in considering scholarships for the study of plant sciences, special consideration *may* be given to a field related to irises. The motion passed.

Slides Committee Chairman Shockey reported that the slides program is running smoothly.

As chairman of the Youth Committee, Gates presented the results of the contest for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Youth Achievement Award. Judging this year were Carl O'Shea (RVP, Region 2), Marianne Schumacher (Youth Chairman, Region 8) and Julie Allen (Member-at-large, Region 7). The winner is Sue Copeland, Region 6. First runner-up is Shelly Moller, Region 20, and second runner-up is Michael McCarthy, Region 20.

The meeting was recessed, to reconvene at nine o'clock the following morning.

Foundation Liaison Pettijohn reported that contributions are high, bringing the balance in the Foundation to \$115,710.74; Contributions were \$29,443.94. Total income was \$37,155.95. Trustees elected to three-year terms were Richard Butler, Elvan Roderick, and Eric Tankesley-Clarke; elected for a one-year term was Ellene Rockwell. North Carolina State University has requested funds but is being asked for an additional proposal relating to soft rot.

Convention Liaison Jones stated that Convention Committees for Atlanta (1992) and Fort Worth (1993) are well-organized. Chairman for the 1994 convention in Portland, Oregon, will be Terry Aitken. The fall meeting this year will be held in Indianapolis, and next year's fall meeting will be in Kansas City, Missouri. An invitation has been received from the Tulsa Area Iris Society for the 1993 fall meeting. Jones moved, Niswonger seconded, that the invitation be accepted. The motion carried. Jones stated that at recent conventions there had been meetings of convention chairmen, past, present, and future. These meetings have proved very helpful and should be continued.

Historical Committee Chairman Harder reported that he is still not receiving all the publications which should come to him for the Library. He then told of going through some papers which had been stored in the Library for a long time, finding copies of the minutes of AIS Board meetings from 1926 through John Wister's term of office as President. Found in these records was information on the initial awarding of the Dykes Medal. Photocopies will be made for the use of anyone who needs them, and a more complete report will be given at a later date. Harder has also received some old iris books from Gene Wild from the collection of Gilbert Wild.

RVP Counselor Machulak reported a good meeting of the Board of Counselors the evening before. He brought up for Board discussion the matter of whether an RVP must also be a judge, as it had come to his attention that Forrest Townsend, Acting RVP of Region 18, who is filling the unexpired term of the late Leda Christlieb, is not a judge. It was noted that there is no such requirement. Rasmussen explained the history behind the misunderstanding. In the early days of the society, an RVP was appointed by the Board; the recommendation did not come from the region. At the same time the RVP was appointed, he/she was also appointed a judge, and later if that person became a Board member he/she was automatically made a Master Judge, even if he had been a judge for only a short time. The system has changed over the years. The RVP Handbook currently in use speaks of only one requirement, a minimum membership of five years. It was the consensus of the Board that Townsend should fill Christlieb's unexpired term, at which time Region 18 will recommend Townsend or someone else to the Board for that office. Niswonger moved, Jones seconded, that the Board reaffirm the policy as stated in the RVP Handbook with reference to the qualifications for becoming an RVP. The motion carried.

New officers for the RVP Board of Counselors are Ruth Wilder (5), President, and Shirley Pope (1), Secretary. Elected to serve on the 1992 Personnel Committee are David Miller (20) and Jim Keefe (17).

Harlow reported for the Committee to Study Computer Needs, presenting detailed proposals for software, hardware and printers from Anderson and Associates of San Francisco. This equipment outlined would serve the offices of Registrar Nelson and Membership Secretary Harlow. Rasmussen moved, Jones seconded, that the Board enter into a contract with Anderson and Associates of San Francisco to purchase the equipment described in the System Proposal for the AIS Registrar and in the Computer Proposal for the AIS Membership Secretary, with authorization for Harlow to purchase a new printer for the Membership Secretary's office when it is needed. The motion carried.

Section Liaison Lineberger reported that there had been an excellent meeting with the Section Advisory Board the evening before. He spoke first, however, of the honor it had been for him to represent the President and the Board of the AIS at the 50th anniversary of the SLI in April. He was honored further in being asked to present the 12th Mary Swords Debaillon Award to Charles Arny for ACADIAN MISS. Returning to the report of the Sections meeting, Lineberger stated (1) that the sections would like to have representation on the Board; (2) the Reblooming Iris Society would like to have a different notation in the Registrations and Introductions publications, one which would make it easier to denote the reblooming irises; (3) the sections feel that under the present Awards structure irises other than tall-bearded do not always have an equal chance for some awards; (4) the sections would like to hear the recommendations of Attorney Glenn Spain with regard to his study of the relationship of the sections and the AIS; (5) for future conventions a meeting has been requested for editors of section publications and the Bulletin editor in the hope of promoting better liaison; (6) in Bulletin listings, it was asked that the names of the president and the membership secretary be given rather than the president and the publication editor; (7) Lineberger will obtain the pertinent information concerning changes of officers and send it where it is needed; (8) section representatives commented on the meeting schedule at this convention as being the best ever and praised the local chairmen; (9) Anne Lowe was chosen to be the representative for the 1992 Personnel Committee.

There was no report from the Color Pattern Definition Committee.

Copeland, chairman of the Committee to Study the Awards Structure, reported that there was no written report as yet but that there would be one in the fall, and that he did not wish to open the floor for discussion at this time. All sections have been contacted, and there has been much correspondence. The committee welcomes suggestions. Copeland distributed copies of a Region 1 proposal, commenting that many of the items in the proposal were already under consideration by the committee.

Stahly reported that the ad hoc Committee to Study RVP Board Membership (Barbara Aitken, James Fry, Doug Goodnight, Larry Harder, Everete Lineberger, James P. McWhirter, and Hal Staly, Chm.) recommends that the bylaws of the American Iris Society be amended to add one Regional Vice President to full voting membership on the Board of Directors. This person shall be elected by the RVPs to serve one year on the Board, and shall be chosen from among those who will be in their third year as RVP during their tenure on the Board. (Rationale: This action should build enthusiasm among RVPs, who feel at times that their concerns are not addressed by the Board. Their representation on the Board will enhance communication and give assurance that the RVP interests, and those of the general membership, will be given stronger voice. RVPs with two years experience (as RVP) should have an adequate grasp of the functioning of the Society to enable them to be fully contributing Board members.) Stahly added that there was one person on the committee who did not agree with this proposal, feeling that things are all right as they are. Committee member Lineberger commented that he felt that one year on the Board is not enough; also, he repeated what he had stated in an earlier report, that there should be a section representative on the Board. Stahly suggested that perhaps the bylaws could be changed with wording written broadly enough to give the Board some discretion, then representation would not be restricted to RVPs, adding that it is cumbersome as well as costly to change bylaws.

There was a brief break beginning at 10:45 am.

Continuing the discussion of RVP representation on the Board, Niswonger moved, Gates seconded, that the Board adopt the recommendation of the committee as presented by Stahly, and that

the committee work on the proper wording for the necessary change in the bylaws, reporting back to the Board in the fall. The motion carried.

Niswonger moved, Jones seconded, that until the bylaws can be revised, a non-voting representative of the Board be selected by the RVPs to sit on the Board. The motion carried.

Lineberger moved, Niswonger seconded, that the president appoint a committee to study the bylaws for revision, considering in particular business meetings, the composition of the Board, the nomination and election of directors, and terms of office. Any proposal would be checked by Attorney Spain for compliance with 501-C-3. The motion carried. Waite stated that a committee will be appointed for this purpose before or at the time of the fall Board meeting.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at noon to be resumed at 1:30. RVPs were asked to remain for a brief meeting.

Corlew reported for the Committee to Review the Dues and Fee Structure, stating that AIS dues and fees have remained unchanged for a number of years (11), while inflation has continued to increase expenses. Increases in membership have helped keep income ahead of expenses, but the margin has grown uncomfortably narrow. AIS rates are much lower than those of other major plant societies. The committee, composed of Marilyn Harlow, Kay Nelson, and Glenn Corlew, chm., made the following recommendations. First, increase the single annual membership by \$3, bringing the new rate up to \$12.50. Rates for the other types of memberships are computed from this basic figure. New rates would become effective January 1, 1992. Corlew so moved, Stayer seconded. The motion carried. In discussion it was noted that AIS "family" membership means two people at the same address receiving one *Bulletin*. It was suggested that the term "family" be changed to "dual" and that the two categories of youth membership be listed as "youth (with *Bulletin*)" and "youth (without Bulletin)."

The second proposal: Increase the rate for Commercial Directory Ads by 25% and the rate for Display Ads by 20%, the new rates to become effective January 1, 1992. Corlew so moved, Machulak seconded. The motion carried.

The third proposal: Increase Registration Fees and Transfer Fees to \$7 and \$10 respectively. Corlew so moved, Niswonger seconded. The motion carried.

Corlew then moved that \$2.50 be added to the annual rate for overseas membership and \$7.50 to the triennial rate for overseas membership. Lineberger seconded. The motion carried.

Rasmussen moved, Corlew seconded, that the secretary be authorized to negotiate with an overseas mail carrier for *Bulletin* mailings. The motion carried.

Waite thanked all special committee workers.

Under unfinished business, Harlow stated that copy for the new Membership Booklet is ready to send to Stayer. Two hundred fifty copies will be printed.

Rasmussen had no report on plans for the 75th anniversary except that there may be a contest to find the best design for the postage stamp.

The RVPs announced that Region 14 RVP McWhirter has been selected to sit on the Board as a non-voting member.

Under new business, Anne Lowe, president of the Historical Iris Preservation Society, brought from that society a request for permission to reprint the 1939 Check List in a soft cover edition. Lowe addressed the matter of misgivings that this reprint might depress sales and affect the value of original copies (when they can be found), but HIPS does not believe this will be so. Lowe presented an estimate for the printing, based on 300 or 500 copies, and said that HIPS would like to approach the AIS Foundation for a loan to fund the endeavor. Reaction to the proposal was favorable, but it was felt that it should be an AIS project. Stayer moved that the AIS fund a reprint of the 1939 Check List in close cooperation with HIPS. Copeland seconded. The motion carried. Lowe was asked to be in charge of the project. She was asked to obtain an additional estimate for 1,000 copies, plus shipping costs to Tulsa, and send it to the Board.

Carol Morgan, RVP of Region 6, brought a special request to the Board concerning a young inmate at the Orient Correctional Facility in Ohio. The young man is to be paroled soon and needs help in his new life as a landscape worker at a nursery in the Flint, Michigan, area. He is particularly interested in irises. Morgan asked for approval of the Board to tell this story at the Welcome Banquet, to ask for individual (matching) donations, as the Flint Area Branch Lutheran Brotherhood has authorized a matching fund in the amount of \$500. Niswonger moved that approval be given,

subject, however, to the approval of the Convention Committee. Lineberger seconded. The motion carried.

Rice-Waters spoke of the need for a second Display Screen. The new one would cost \$1,500 to \$2,000. This second screen would be useful because of scheduling and as a replacement. Lineberger moved, Barr seconded, that Rice-Waters proceed with the purchase of a new screen.

Corlew spoke briefly, in glowing terms, about his experiences while serving as a judge at the International Iris Competition in Florence, Italy, earlier in May. The winner was Bryce Williamson's PRINCE CHARMING.

There was a brief recess at 3:30 pm.

Stayer reported for the 1991 Personnel Committee, composed of Stayer and Lineberger, Board representatives, Melody Wilhoit and Doug Goodnight, RVPs, and Joseph Mertzweiller, Section representative. The committee recommended the following candidates for terms expiring in 1994: incumbent Hilda Crick, Clarence Mahan, Harold Stahly, Jean Witt, and Lloyd Zurbrigg. There are four vacancies. Gates has chosen not to serve another term. There were no nominations from the floor. Waite called for adjournment to executive session to consider the nominations and appointed Marisa Noe and Angela Morgan as counters. Following executive session, Waite announced that the nominees are Crick, Mahan, Stahly, and Witt, and he expressed thanks to retiring directors Gates, Copeland, and Machulak.

Waite appointed Lillian Gristwood and Bennett Jones to serve on the 1992 Personnel Committee. Jones stated that he feels the method of awarding honorary medals is undemocratic in that it requires a full vote of the Board. He moved that the awarding of honorary medals require only a two-thirds vote of the Board members present. Niswonger seconded. There was discussion, during which Lineberger moved that the motion be amended to require a vote of three-fourths of the Board members present. Corlew seconded the amendment. Jones withdrew his motion and revised it to require a three-fourths vote. Niswonger seconded. The motion carried.

Waite announced that the fall Board meeting will be held in Indianapolis November 1-3, 1991. Waite then conveyed the thanks of all the Board members to the Convention Committee, to Region 4, and to all the affiliates and clubs who helped, for all the things they did to make the meeting such a good one.

The meeting was adjourned.

Claire Barr, Recording Secretary

**Photo Credits:** Aitken 23; Black 18 middle left; Boswell 17 top left, 17 bottom right, 19 top left; Briscoe 19 lower left; Dunn 17 middle left, 18 lower left; Fisher 16 right; Gaddie 19 middle left; Ghio 18 top right, 19 lower right; Hager 17 top left, 19 top right; Harder 20 top left; Helsley 17 bottom left; Hollingworth 20 lower right, 22 middle; Jones 20 lower left; Keppel 16 left, 22 lower right; Koza 29 bottom, 37 bottom, 42, 55, 56, 63 middle; Maryott 20 middle left; McCown 18 top left; Miller 20 top right, 26, 37 top, 38, 40, 43, 48, 50, 51, 57, 59, 63 top and bottom; Mohr 20 middle right; Mullin 17 middle right; Niswonger 22 top; Owen 18 middle right; Rice 68; Rowlan 18 bottom right; Schreiners 21; Stayer 29 top, 31; Weiler 22 lower left; Willott 19 middle right.

#### HOW TO REGISTER AND INTRODUCE AN IRIS

These instructions apply to the registration of all classes of irises except bulbous irises.

#### REGISTRATION

- 1. Write to the AIS Registrar Kay Nelson, P.O. Box 37613, Omaha, Nebraska 68137, for a registration blank, enclosing a check for the registration fee payable to the American Iris Society. Registration fee is \$7.50 for each iris; for each transfer of a name from one iris to another the fee is \$10.00.
- 2. Select a name that has not been previously registered, which may be submitted for approval when you write for the registration blank. You will save time for yourself and for the Registrar if you will first look in the AIS Check Lists and the annual reports of the Registrar since 1979 to see if the name you have chosen has been registered previously. Please also suggest an alternate name. The Registrar will hold an approved name for a short time to enable you to complete the blank and send it back to her, but a name is not registered until the registration blank is filed and approved by the Registrar. A registration certificate then will be sent to you.
- 3. Names should follow the rules established by the International Horticultural Code, and the following names shall not be admissible:
  - a. Names of living persons without the written permission of that person.
  - b. Names of persons including forms of address (that is, JANE DOE, not MRS. JANE DOE).
  - c. Names including numerals or symbols.
  - d. Names beginning with the article "a" and "the" or their equivalent in other languages unless required by linguistic custom.
  - e. Abbreviations unless required by linguistic custom.
  - f. Latin names or Latinized forms. However, the AIS custom of using part of the Latin names of a species, namely the specific epithet, as part of the cultivar name when this seems appropriate (e.g. SUSIMAC, from I. susiana X IB-MAC), shall be continued.
  - g. Use of trademark or copyrighted names unless previously in common use.
  - h. A slight variation of a previously registered name.
  - i. Names containing more than three words.
  - j. Names that exaggerate or may become inaccurate (e.g. HEAVIEST LACE, TALLEST BLACK).
- 4. Previously registered names may be re-used provided (a) the original registration has not been introduced or distributed by name, (b) does not appear by name in later parentage registrations, and (c) the new registrant furnishes the Registrar with written statement of permission from the previous registrant.
- 5. Names will not be released as obsolete unless there is proof that no stock now exists and that the iris was never used as a parent.

#### INTRODUCTIONS

An introduction is an offering for sale to the public. Catalogs, printed lists, and advertisements in the American Iris Society *Bulletin* are acceptable mediums of introduction. It is a requisite for the awards of the Society above that of High Commendation. *An iris is not eligible for these awards until two years after its introduction has been recorded with the Registrar.* Send Ms. Nelson a copy of the catalog, list or advertisement and she will acknowledge the fact that the introduction has been recorded. (For irises introduced in the AIS BULLETIN, notify her of the BULLETIN number and page on which the introductory advertisement appears.)

### IRIS SLIDES FOR RENT

AIS offers a number of iris slide sets for rental to members, each consisting of approximately 100 35mm slides. These provide excellent programs for both iris societies and garden clubs.

#### **SLIDE SETS AVAILABLE FOR 1992**

THE NEWEST IN IRISES: 1989 through 1992 introductions—mostly TB, but contains other types.

RECENT AWARD WINNERS: HM and AM winners—1988 through 1991.

THE POPULARITY POLL: Favorite irises as reflected by the 1991 AIS Symposium. RECENT BEAUTIES: Recent introductions which have not as yet won the HM award—mostly TB, but includes other types.

TYPES OTHER THAN TALL BEARDED: Bearded and beardless—arranged in approximate blooming sequence.

RELIABLES: Mostly past award winners of various types—especially suited for newer iris societies and garden clubs.

1990 OMAHA CONVENTION

1991 WASHINGTON D. C. CONVENTION

**To Order:** Requests for slides should be made well in advance of requested date, preferably six to eight weeks. If optional, specify alternate sets and/or dates. Clearly PRINT name and mailing address to whom slides are to be sent. Rental fee is \$7.50 per set, payable to AIS. Only one set allowed for any request date. AIS Affiliate Societies are entitled to one free set per calendar year. Slide sets are to be returned next day after viewing by PRIORITY mail.

Send check with request to:

Howard Shockey, Chairman Slides Committee 4611 Rio Grande Lane, N.W. Albuquerque, NM 87107

Note: Telephone calls cannot be returned.

# **SECTION SLIDES AVAILABLE**

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent. These feature irises of each respective group. Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise. Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

ARILS and ARILBREDS: Order from Clay H. Osborne, 47806 Calle Fiesta, Indio, CA 92201. Rental fee \$7.50—Check to Aril Society International.

HISTORIC IRIS PRESERVATION SOCIETY (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Check to HIPS.

JAPANESE: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

LOUISIANAS: Order from LaVera Burkett, 1002 Randall, Searcy, AR 72143. Check to LISA.

MEDIANS: Order from Terry Aitken, 608 N.W. 119th St., Vancouver, WA 98685. Check to MIS.

REBLOOMERS: Contact Earl E. Hall, 1495 Enterprise Road, West Alexandria, OH 45381. Check to Reblooming Iris Society.

SIBERIANS: Order from Thomas Abrego, P.O. Box 693, Newberg, OR 97132. Check to Society for Siberian Irises.

SPECIES: Several sets available—Order from Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave., Sudbury, MA 01776. Check to SIGNA.

SPURIAS: To order, contact Ray M. John, 1004 Springfield, Ft. Worth, TX 76112. Check to Spuria Iris Society.

### **AIS SALES ITEMS**

THE WORLD OF IRISES
HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES AND SHOW OFFICIALS complete \$6.00 pages only \$4.00
Fifth Edition, in handy looseleaf form. Available with or without binder for holding the pages.
Iris Notes, 3½ x 5½, reproductions of watercolors from the archives of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, \$6.00 per pack, 3 for \$17.00. Each pack contains ten notes and envelopes, two different designs.
Order by pack number: Pack 1: 5 Iris aurea, 5 Iris latifolia.  Pack 2: 5 Iris xiphium, 5 Japanese iris.  Pack 3: 5 Iris pallida hybrid, 5 Gladwyn iris.
IRIS SHOW POSTERS
AIS LAPEL PINS\$5.00
AIS logo in blue and green on silver plated pin ½" x 5%" with safety lock catch.
BASIC IRIS CULTURE each \$1.25; packet of 25, \$15.00 A 32-page booklet covering the basic aspects of growing irises. Available in single issue or quantity for resale by societies at meetings, shows and sales.
1988 AIS MEMBERSHIP BOOK. A complete listing of members of AIS, including
addresses
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1969 IRIS CHECK LIST
Reprint. Ten-year compilation of registrations 1960-69.
1979 IRIS CHECK LIST
Reprint, Ten-year compilation of registrations 1970-79.  REGISTRATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS—
1984
1985
1986
BULLETINS: Back issues, if available\$3.00
BRONZE ANNIVERSARY MEDALS\$2.50
The AIS 50th Anniversary medal in antiqued bronze. Suitable for pendants, show prizes, and special awards.
AIS SEALS
RHS COLOUR CHARTS\$45.00
Set of four color fans, plus instruction leaflet.  1991 AIS CALENDAR

## Prices include postage and handling. Make checks payable to The American Iris Society

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### **ACME IRIS GARDENS**

Irises by George
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Carson City, Ml 48811
Descriptive price list available
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Irises · Daylilies · Peonies

Medians, Dwarfs, Talls Species

In 1991, Introducing Dwarfs & Medians for Boswell, Sindt, Hager, & Albers

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Top Quality Irises by the World's Leading Hybridizers

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Please include one 25¢ postage stamp for each list.



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Introductions of Joyce and Duane Meek

See our ad in the Spring Bulletin

We didn't realize when we put our message in last April's Bulletin that we could never make the deadline for the July '90 issue. Consequently, our new introductions are being saved for 1991. We hope you will like our choices.

No catalog. Write for prices of previous intros

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Northern Grown Iris
Newer & older varieties—reasonable prices
TB—BB—IB—SDB—MTB—MDB
Send first class stamp for list
SDB Specials

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REASONABLE Prices
Best of the OLD.
Many NEW ones.
REBLOOMERS.
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Indication of excellent garden growers. Also indication of a reblooming season for reblooming varieties.

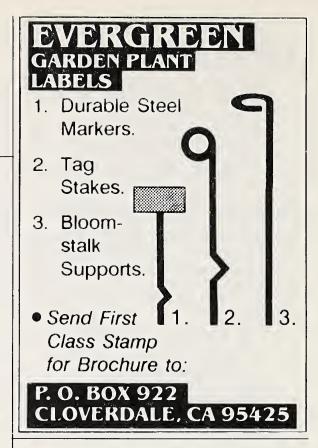
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Please send \$1.00 for descriptive price list.

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Specializing in the newest tall beardeds and medians

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TB Irises at reasonable prices. Send stamp for descriptive price list.



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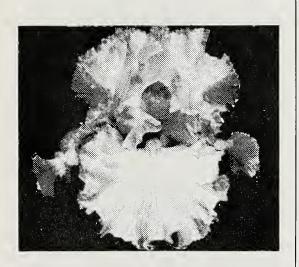
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TBs, Siberians

Newest irlses at affordable prices

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of

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Large selection of MTBs Catalog filled with many helpful hints Send \$1.00 for catalog

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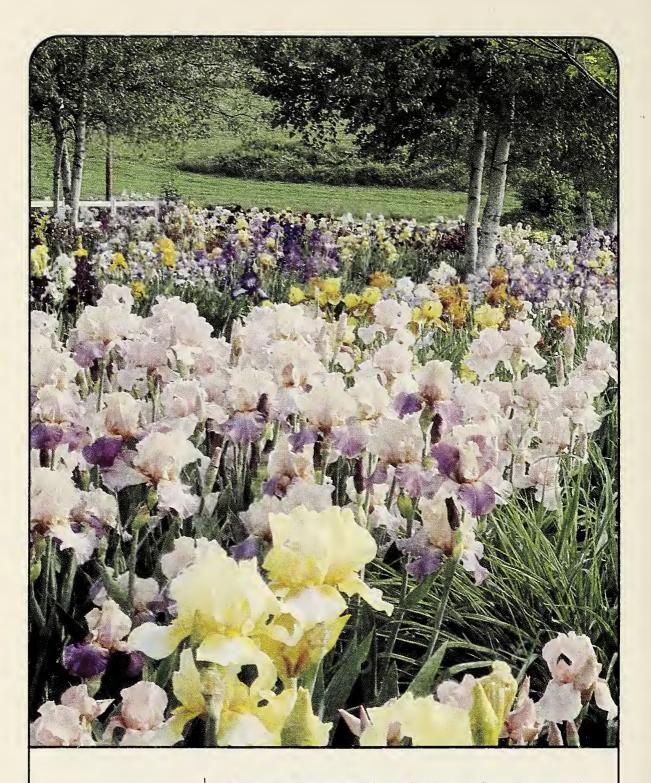
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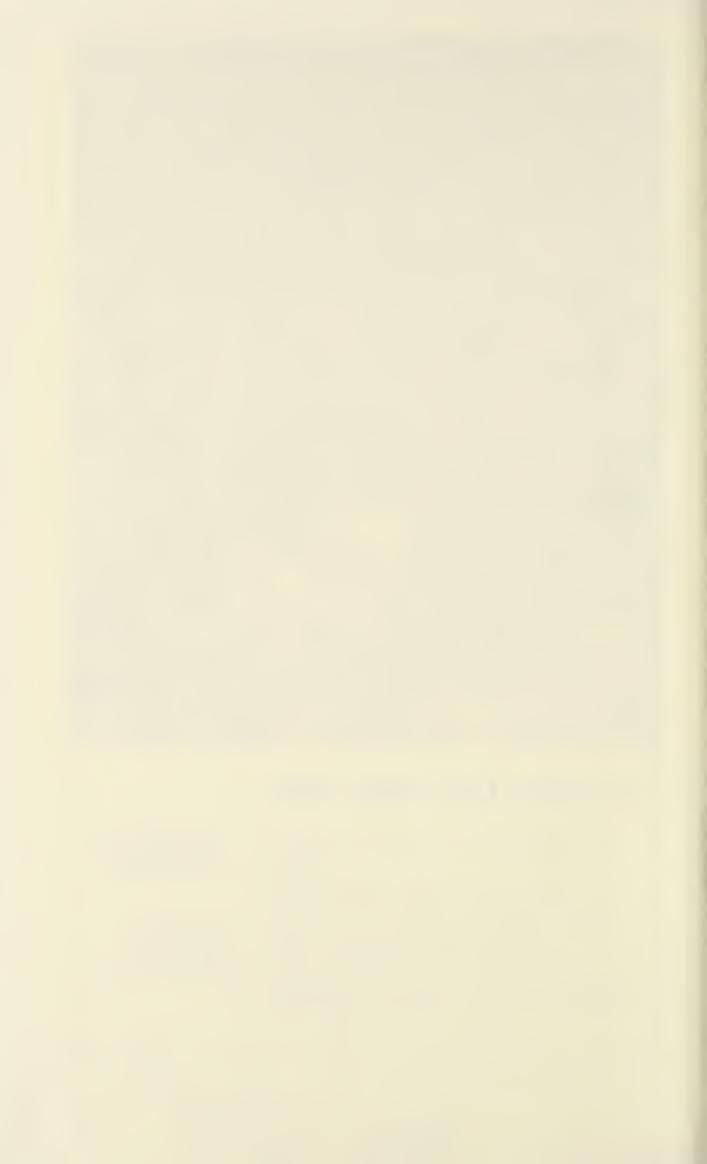
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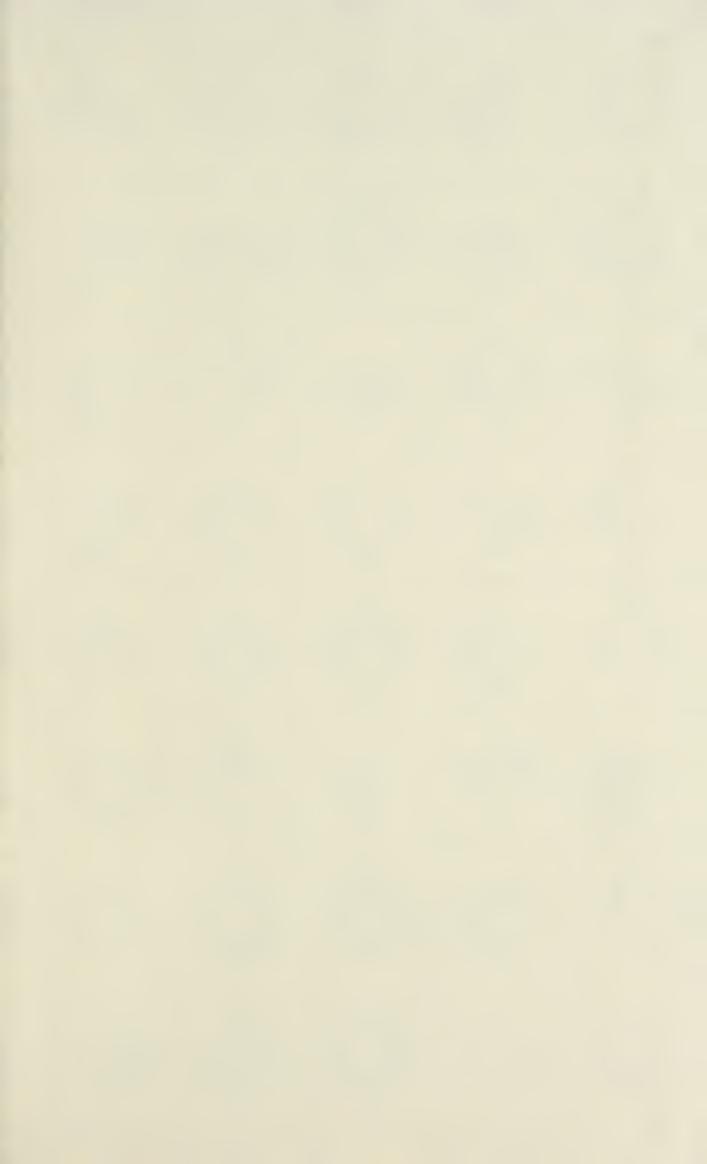
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